

REFERENCE NUMBER

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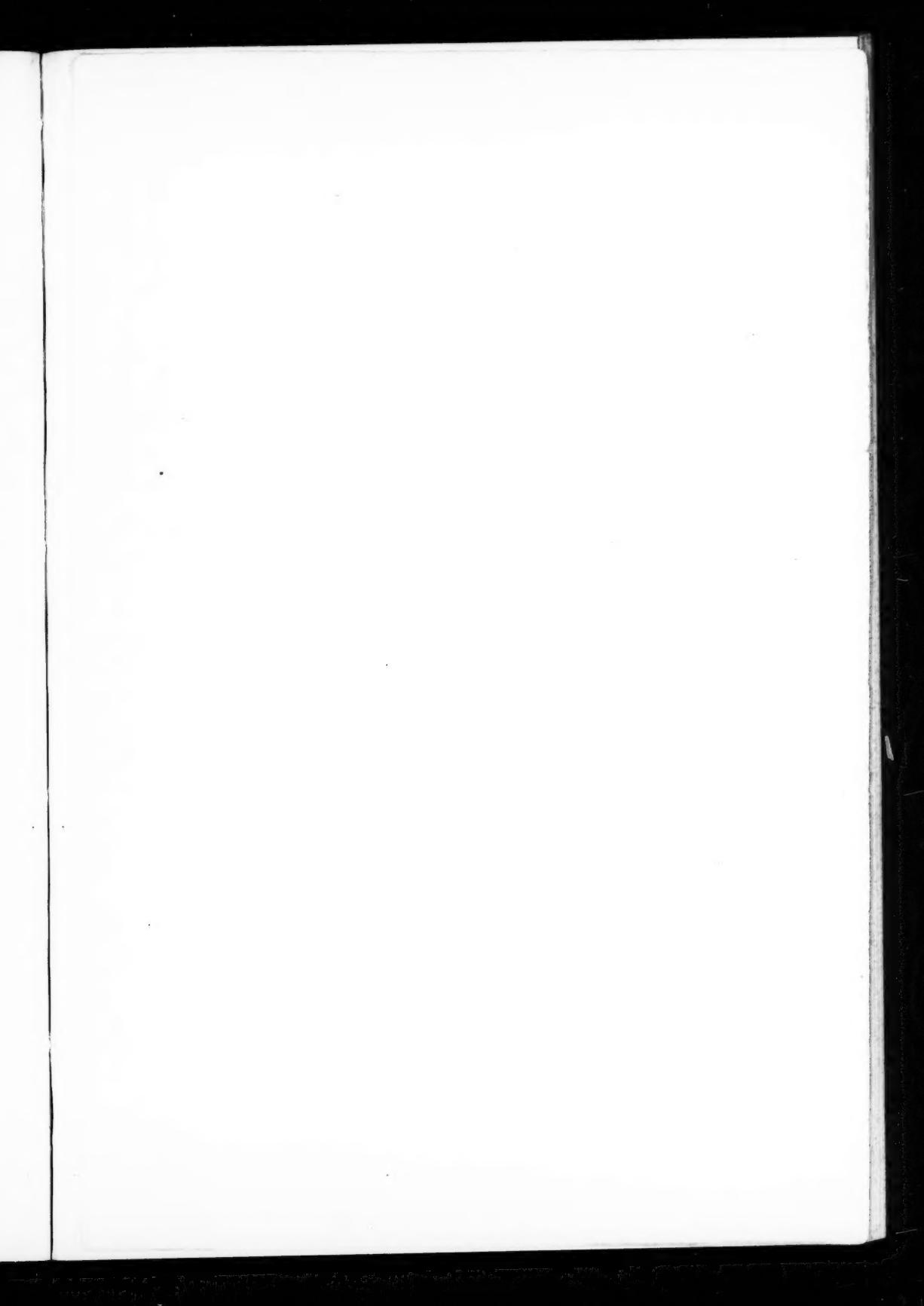
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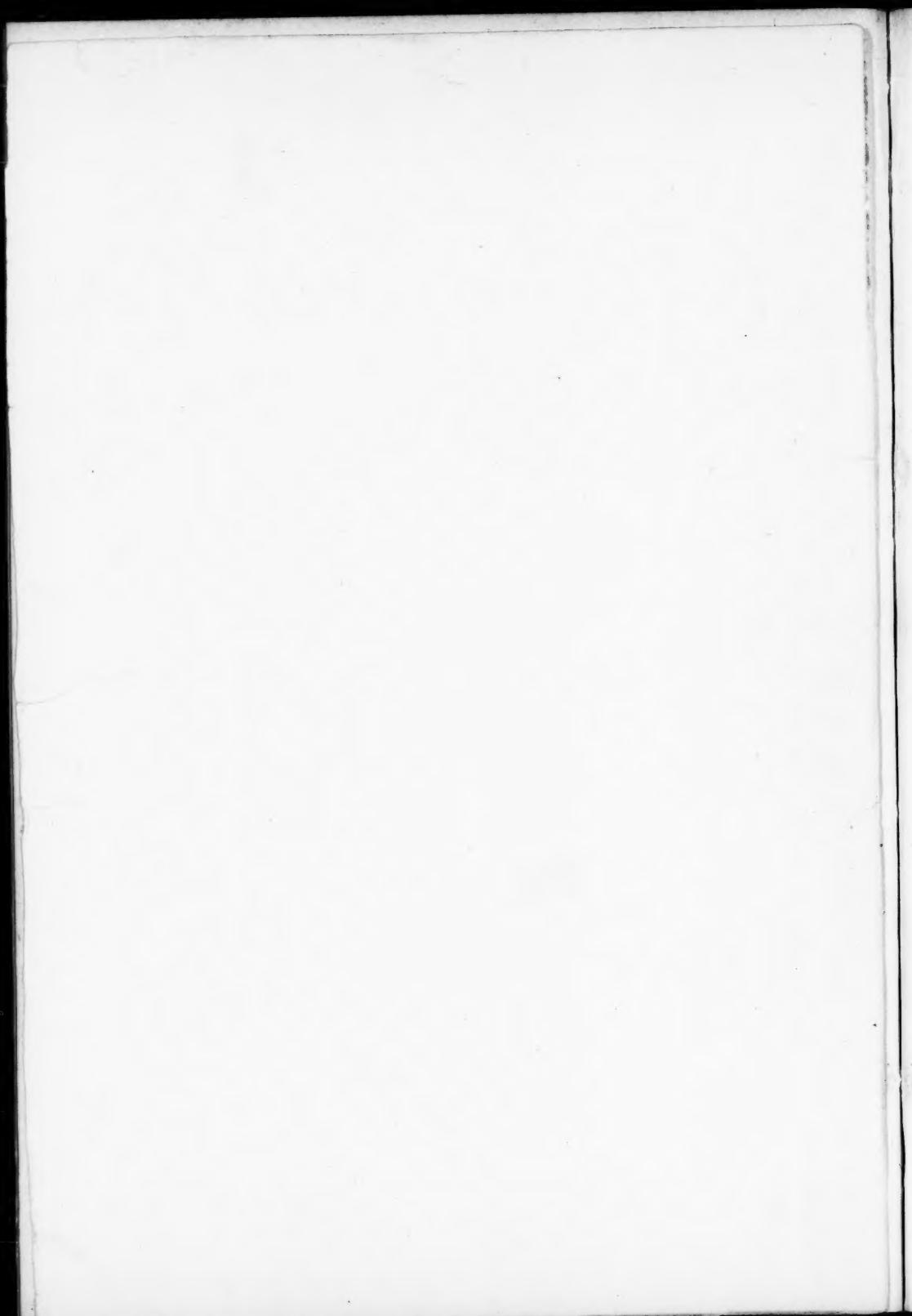
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Women Librarians and their Future Prospects*

M. S. R. James, librarian of Library Bureau,
Boston

It has frequently been urged against the inhabitants of Great Britain that they are not quick at the uptake, and it is stated that in the matter of education Great Britain is still lamentably behind other countries, and particularly so in the case of technical training of all kinds, though recent years have developed a marked tendency in all directions to lessen the reproach. Technical, or secondary education has come to be regarded as an essential continuation of the training in elementary schools, and is a potent factor in causing the realization of the imperative necessity for providing students with books, which, owing to obvious reasons, they are unable to purchase for themselves. Hence the increasing establishment of libraries in manufacturing districts, towns, and communities, all over the world. That the best of tuition is required both for elementary and secondary education, and that the standard expected is high, is not to be wondered at, but that such service should be in a majority of instances inadequately remunerated, partly from lack of funds, partly from the inability of governing bodies to appreciate the far-reaching effects of such service, is greatly to be deplored. The public library and librarian of any community, or educational

institute should be regarded as part, and a very important part, of the machinery of technical, secondary, and higher education. Carlyle says libraries are the universities of the people, and this being so, the library committee, librarian, and staff cannot be too carefully selected. If the best professors and instructors are not too good for a university, the best educated, most widely read and highly cultured persons cannot be too good for library work, which in its requirements is kaleidoscopic, and in its demands on the library resources and the brains of its librarian variable and sudden. It is, unfortunately, impossible for most of the library boards of public libraries under the Public libraries acts to command the services of highly educated librarians or assistants, owing to the small incomes produced by the rate, and until recently it has not been generally considered necessary for a librarian or an assistant to have any particular qualification for the work.

The librarians of such libraries have themselves to a great extent been instrumental in raising their status to its present position, which is not yet sufficiently high, it being obvious that if specialized knowledge is required of teachers before they can embark in the perilous venture of tuition, it is equally necessary to require at least some show of educational fitness from librarians, who are rightly expected to be well up in all works on modern science, industries, economics, and all branches of

* Read before the International council of women in London, May, 1899.

literature; to be able to recommend the
ions of any subject; to suggest lists of books for purchase, and after approval to buy them with some regard for business economy, and to classify and catalog them so that they shall be promptly available; who, in addition to these requirements must possess unfailing patience, tact, courtesy, executive ability, secretarial instincts, knowledge of accounting, an appreciation of humor, the keen perceptions of a good indexer, and an unobtrusive ability to penetrate the minds of inquirers for the elucidation of their somewhat involved demands, together with the up-to-date-on-the-spot-alertness of the man of business. It is, of course, possible to be a born librarian, there have been many instances; but even so a practical working knowledge of library administration is simply an addition, and no detraction, to its possessor. It is, however, not exceptions but the general average for whom rules are made. The above stated requirements simply tend to show that from their possession of them educated women are peculiarly fitted for such work, and it is a source of great wonderment to everyone who has considered the subject that so few such women have been employed in British libraries in really responsible positions. For some reason or another their employment seems only to have been contemplated as possible in connection with public libraries under the acts (except the brilliant exception of Miss Toulmin Smith, librarian of Manchester college, Oxford), where from the nature of things, as already explained, their services are limited and scope confined; not that it is impossible for women employed in public libraries under the acts to better their condition, but that, in the majority of cases, very little can be expected from the class of women employed, executive ability last of all, and salaries, though almost at the sweating limit owing to financial economics, are in a good many instances quite as much as the work done is worth. Mr McFarlane in his Library administration, page

23, says of women assistants, that "there seem to be no objections to them other than those commonly alleged against women's work," and writes that they are "specially useful in a juvenile department"; at the same time, speaking of the cheapness of their labor, he adds that "there is as yet no serious question of employing women in the more scholarly libraries," though he goes on to tell of a lady who assisted in the arrangement and cataloging of the Tapling collection of postage stamps in the British museum.

Women are, I believe, employed in catalog and index work at the Royal society; one of them to my knowledge was a graduate of Newnham college. At Dr Williams' library in Gordon square women are employed. A Miss Abbott was for a long time librarian at Hamstead subscription library. A Miss Stamp was head of the Nottinghill library before it came under the acts, and she is registered as one of the few women members of the L. A. U. K. who attended meetings of that association in its early days. For some time women have been employed in libraries in London and elsewhere, though in what capacity it is difficult to discover, and there must, doubtless, have been others in country towns and districts. Indeed at the present day a woman is employed as librarian of a country library presented to the little town of Woodbridge, Suffolk, by one Thomas Seckford, of charitable inclination; and a woman is employed at the subscription library in the "Ancient house," Buttermarket, Ipswich, Suffolk, in addition to one employed by W. Palmer in his library at Reading, to which post she was appointed in 1879, I believe. The list could probably be further extended. An American woman, Hattie Johnson, was employed for a year or more as cataloger in the National library of Dublin, Ireland. She has given her experiences—which are not, however, printed—before the New Hampshire library club. Women students generally manage their college libraries, though it does not appear to be done

with any great degree of system, or technical or practical knowledge. Women are also to be found in subscription and society libraries. I can, however, only find that 19 English libraries employ women as chief librarians, and their salaries appear to average £45 to £80 per annum. What is expected for this, or what other compensation there may be, if any, I am unable to state. Manchester public library, Lancs, began to employ women as assistants in 1871, and found them specially good in dealing with boys. The applicants, who were numerous, were recruited among the daughters of tradesmen and shopkeepers, and received at first from 10s. per week to £80 a year, according to experience and ability. Manchester now employs women as heads of branch libraries as well; Battersea, Chelsea, Clerkenwell, Derby, Oldham, St Helens, Salford, Blackpool, Paisley, Liverpool, Bristol, and many other libraries, have followed suit, and now require an elementary entrance examination before appointment.

The status of the librarian is all the time being raised; more is expected, and rightly, for it is a position of great responsibility and one of unlimited possibilities and far-reaching influence on future generations. An exaggerated statement, you think, perhaps, but run it down and it will be seen to be emphatically true. Unfortunately, up to the present in Great Britain it does not appear to have been realized that such laborers are worthy of their hire if they prove this by the quality of their work. In foreign countries we find the employment of women not much more extensive. In Italy Signorina Sacconi (now Signora Sacconi Ricci) of the Marucellian library, Florence, distinguished herself by her work, inventions, and report on libraries, and though no longer actively employed, she takes a great interest in all matters pertaining to library work. In Norway we find Frøken Valborg Platou, who has been employed as chief librarian at Bergen for over 15 years, receives about £134 per year, and employs a woman assist-

ant whose hours are 5½ per day, and who receives £22 per year. There is also a woman caretaker whose hours are 6 per day, and remuneration £28 per year!

In Sweden women have been employed as assistants for some years; in Austria at Vienna they are employed as assistants, and in the Ottendorfer library, Germany, at Zwittau, the librarian is a woman. In Switzerland, at the Fribourg cantonal museum, a woman is director. In France there appears to be no record of the employment of women, but everyone knows of the finished work of Mlle. Pellechet* of 30 Rue Blanche, Paris, as a cataloger of the incunabula in the National library of France. In Honolulu a Mary Burbank presides over the library. In Canada women are extensively employed, though I have not found many as chiefs. In Australia a few women are beginning to be employed as assistants.

In the United States we find, as in other occupations, the elysium of women. It is almost the exception not to find women in libraries, where they have proved themselves indispensable as organizers, administrators, catalogers, and indexers, as also in the management of the children's department of libraries, an increasingly important position. Their work as educators is respected and recognized, and their position is assured both as regards the public and the library board, excepting in cases, happily on the decrease, where politics are allowed to debase the value of public library administration and development. All positions are open to them, and they are found in schools, institutes, proprietary libraries, public libraries, college libraries, university libraries, and state libraries, as well as in publishers' offices and booksellers' stores; also as organizers and reorganizers of libraries, superintendents of traveling library systems, railway libraries, and club libraries, and on library boards or committees, though here there might be more than there are with advantage.

*Mlle. Pellechet died in 1901.

Mr Dewey, one of America's most practical librarians, said at the International library conference in London, 1897, in speaking of the ideal librarian, that when he looked into the future he was inclined to think most of the men who would achieve that greatness would be women. I have no doubt that given the same chances as her American sister, which, owing to the various disabilities of an average Englishwoman's education and up-bringing, they have never had, English women would develop the same capability and be quite as successful. That the work is not only suitable, but specially attractive to educated women, is not surprising. The teaching profession is overcrowded, and the strain and monotony entailed are very trying to the health, even taking into consideration that a teacher gets a larger percentage of holiday than any other professional worker, which is not, however, one whit too much for recuperation; whereas library work, with its exacting details and long hours, in spite of moderate pay, affords a variety of interests and brings librarians and assistants into contact with many minds and many aspects of life during the day's work. A woman is instinctively quick, tactful, and patient, the only drawbacks to her employment worth consideration are those oft-thrown accusations as to want of health, lack of business training and executive ability, incapacity for rough work, and want of originality, together with inability to manage library boards or committees whose members are largely composed of men only not always blessed with a great degree of education, or knowledge of library requirements, and unaccustomed to dealing with women in a business capacity. I firmly believe that one potent reason for the non-employment of women as chief librarians is due to this latter cause; the majority of men composing library boards have an unreasoning distrust of woman in a business capacity, added to the fact that it would be a new situation for most of them, and the horror of the true Briton for a new situ-

ation which has not the sanction of centuries of "precedent" is well known. The tendency of the British working-man of John Bright's days "to 'eave 'alf a brick at a new idea" has unfortunately not been confined only to that class of Briton. Up to the present, to be perfectly candid, this distrust has been somewhat justified, because no women of the right sort have arisen to prove its falsity, so that the erroneous fear of the "eternal feminine" in such a capacity has had no chance of extinction. Opinions as to the value of women's work in libraries are invariably favorable, the worst that is brought against it having been mentioned above. We wait for the right kind of woman to make a commencement; there is always room on the top, and few women have yet got there in the library world, though other careers present many distinguished successes. If women of education and leisure would get themselves elected on the boards of public and other libraries, and in such capacity act with farseeing impartiality, putting forward only the best candidates, women or men alike, for vacancies or appointments, and see that remuneration for such service should at least be adequate for living expenses, a great deal would be done toward a common-sense attitude on this library question. Women do not want to oust men from such work by accepting lower salaries because their labor is reckoned as cheaper, though it must be admitted that in some cases from various causes women have done this; all they demand is equal chances. If the woman applicant is better fitted by education, etc., for a post than the man, surely it would be policy for the library board to employ her, since the library requires the best, regardless of sex, which should not enter into the question. It has, however, to be admitted that at present women are more likely to be successful if employed in public libraries under the acts in small town libraries, rather than in large cities, as men are able to do many odd jobs and rough work impossible to women, and to go into all sorts of

places and mix with the outside world with more freedom and, consequently, more knowledge of local conditions than women.

After a careful search I can only find that women are acting on library committees in five British libraries.* Miss M. Cunningham at Edinburgh, Miss A. McClure at Rugby, two ladies of title at Wrexham, half the committee at Alverstoke and Gosport, and on the London library committee, Mrs J. R. Green, the historian's wife. Here indeed is an opportunity for women neglected by them.

The difficulty of employment for women has been and is their lack of training; unskilled labor is thrown on the market obliged to "do something to earn something," as one so often hears, in which cases it is impossible for the woman to afford either time or money for training, which, if obtained, would often be productive of good results. It is the advent of such women, and there are many, into library work that is to be feared, yet their case is hard. If a woman can afford time and money for some business training let her take it, attending the classes of the L. A. U. K., information concerning which one can obtain of the secretary of the education committee of that body at 20 Hanover square W, as well as the Palæographic and other courses at the London School of economics, after which she should go up for the examination and then apply for a post, not being afraid to begin at the lowest rung of the ladder in order to gain comprehensive experience; quality will surely be productive of quantity in the matter of salary eventually; the fact that she has done this will tell immensely in her favor. If she can afford the time for additional training let her apply to one of the larger public libraries, or even to a university or college library, or a library of one of the many scientific societies, and work, if possible, as a student, not forgetting the importance of visiting other libraries and attending meetings of library

associations, thereby proving that she means business, intends to make it a life work and to do it thoroughly, taking advantage of all modern improvements and benefiting thereby. I do not wish to hold out false hopes, but I am convinced that given the right women there is plenty of scope for them as catalogers to scientific, proprietary, and college and society libraries. Cataloging requires care, thoroughness, patience, and research, and women are more than equal to all these requirements. The way has to be opened, but sitting still and deplored present obstacles won't do that. I am equally convinced that good indexing is badly wanted both in the literary and commercial world, not such work as is too often seen, but painstaking, extremely accurate, verified work, in science, medicine, and other arts, as well as book indexing, which at present with a few exceptions is about as bad as it can be.

Newspapers are coming to find that indexes are of great value to them; periodicals and magazines, etc., all have to have indexes, and I feel sure that English publishers will begin to see with the eyes of their American competitors that it pays to have someone who knows in this department of their work, and that educated, scientific, thorough work is essential to their businesses. Moreover, where there are village libraries to be organized, selected, classified, and cataloged, who so well fitted for this work as a woman? Then there are prison libraries, lighthouse libraries, school libraries, hospital libraries, and workhouse libraries and ship's libraries. The average Atlantic liner's library catalog would disgrace a child, despite its fine cover. In America women go out organizing new and reorganizing old libraries with great success.

There is also bibliographical work, and I have an inkling that there is a good deal to be done in palæography, and if all this fails there is, as a *pièce de resistance* in the catalogless library of St Petersburg, Russia, which is sorely in need of the services of some good cataloger.

*One or two more have since been elected to various boards.

Bibliography in a Small Library*

Elizabeth L. Abbott, assistant, Cincinnati public library

In selecting books for reference work in a small library one must use great care in covering all fields in the book world. Yet much depends upon the community. A reference department in a mining district, for instance, would need to contain more books dealing with mines and mining, as men who are occupied in this line are often unable to buy the books that would be most needed. In the list that I have prepared I have tried to cover a field for the average town or village library. In considering the books I have followed an alphabetical arrangement rather than a classed one.

There is much good material in the books that librarians class as helps in reference work, but it means constant handling and using them to get all their good points. The first duty of a reference librarian is to familiarize himself or herself, as the case may be, with the reference collection at his or her disposal. Most often a person comes in in a great hurry, with only a moment to stay, but in that moment he wishes to secure the best, shortest, and most authoritative account of the subject that he is investigating. Here the amiable and always ready and helpful reference librarian must show his knowledge of the material at hand. He must be able to lay his hand at once on the book that contains the desired material.

C. K. Adams' Manual of historical literature will be helpful in ascertaining the best histories written on the French revolution, the Civil war in the United States, in fact the histories of all countries from ancient to modern times. It will aid the teacher as well as the librarian in courses of historical study. It has a good table of contents and is well indexed.

Allibone's Critical dictionary of English literature, with its supplement, gives one critical as well as biograph-

ical notes on English and American authors which often one is unable to find in other books. In the third volume of the main work there is a subject index with references to authors who have treated on each subject. Then there is also a list of authors under main headings, as Agriculture, Drama, and Heraldry. When you have been asked perhaps 10 times in one day who was a good writer on this subject, and who was the best writer on that subject, then you will appreciate this list.

In Appleton's Annual cyclopedia of important events one will find the latest articles and statistics on almost all conceivable subjects, from ecclesiastical affairs to military art and science. It is thoroughly indexed. Their cyclopedia of American biography is considered the best on American biography. There is a disadvantage in having all descendants under the heads of the family instead of in a straight alphabetical order, but the books are well indexed, which greatly obviates this difficulty.

Bartlett's Familiar quotations gives selections from ancient and modern writers. It has a good catch word index; also one of authors.

In work with the church and missionary societies, Bliss' Cyclopedia of missions is of great help. It contains news of all foreign missions with lists of mission stations. It also gives persons who are contemplating going as missionaries ideas of the difficulties they will meet in the various countries as regards religious beliefs, etc. The bibliographical notes are good, as are the statistical tables. Considerable space is devoted to the Indians of America. The latest edition of this book is 1891, but with missionary journals the work can be brought down to the present.

A little book that all reference librarians will find very helpful is Bowker & Iles' Reader's guide to the study of economic, social, and political science. It gives the best works published under specific headings included in the above named general subjects.

Brookings & Ringwalt's Briefs for de-

*Read before the Ohio Library association, Sandusky, Oct. 3, 1901.

bate is a volume much used in high school work and work with clubs. It gives good points for the affirmative to bring out as well as the negative, with bibliographical notes for both sides.

Chamber's Book of days contains not only the important facts concerning each day in the year, but includes matter connected with the church calendar, popular festivals, saints days, phenomena connected with the seasonal changes, notable events, biographies and anecdotes. These are two useful books and are very popular in a reference room.

It would seem out of place to speak of the merits of Champlin's three little reference books for the young folks: *Cyclopaedia of common things, of games and sports, and persons and places*. The concise, spicy articles are often helpful to grown-up children.

Channing & Hart's Guide to the study of American history is of much aid to the librarian, as well as the teacher and general reader. Bibliographical notes are profuse and the suggestions for courses of study are excellent.

Chisholm's, *The Times' gazetteer of the world*, formerly published by Longmans, I have found to be the best and most complete geographical dictionary yet examined. The appendix contains valuable census statistics and commercial tables.

Crabb's English synonyms needs nothing more than mention, as does the Cumulative index to periodicals.

Edgren & Burnet's French-English dictionary fully fills the place of the old and standard Spier & Surrene.

The 1901 edition of the A. L. A. index to general literature follows the plan of the former edition alphabetical arrangement under subjects, which are brought out in heavy type. It gives the reports, publications of boards and societies dealing with education, labor, charities, and corrections.

Gardiner's School atlas of English history is very good. It covers English history from the time of the Roman Britain to the present. The plans of

noted battles are of unlimited value in school work. It is well indexed.

Gordy & Twitchell as a Pathfinder to American history is very similar to Channing & Hart, but it is well to have them both in a library, as each has its special features and merits.

The new edition of the index to St Nicholas, edited by Harriet Goss and Gertrude Baker, receives a very hearty welcome from all who are interested in work with the children. It follows an alphabetical arrangement, with sub-heads under subjects that are apt to have much material under them, as poetry which is subdivided into the heads—animals, birds, seasons, holidays, and flowers. It would be well to count this on your first list of reference books.

Hazell's Annual is an alphabetical arrangement of all things of interest in foreign countries, from athletic records to genealogical tables. It is accurate and its biographical notes are helpful.

For receipts, notes, and queries in useful arts, Hopkins' Scientific American cyclopaedia is most useful, being an alphabetical arrangement of all questions which would come up on scientific and useful arts. It has good cross references and a list of chemical synonyms. Tables of weights and measures are also scattered through the book.

Hoyle & Ward's Cyclopaedia of practical quotations is most valuable. It gives the names, dates, and nationality of quoted authors. Its indexes are numerous. One special feature of the book is the exact citation of the play or poem from which the quotation is taken.

Johnson's Universal cyclopaedia, which is to some extent founded on Chamber's, is the best general cyclopaedia for ordinary use. Much original work will be found in this collection. I should not suggest the purchase of Britannica, as it is too expensive for a small library and Johnson serves the purpose for general work.

Kiepert's *Atlas antiquus* is excellent for ancient history. Its maps are well made and colored. It gives maps of

the development of ancient countries with the development of their important cities. Its index is full and complete.

Lalor's *Cyclopedia of political science, political economy, and political history of the United States*, covers all ground in the above mentioned fields. Its treatment of the United States is exhaustive, and in most cases to be relied upon.

Larned's *History* for ready reference, of which there is a 1901 edition being prepared, should be in every library even at the expense of leaving out some others of minor importance. It is arranged primarily alphabetically; secondarily, chronologically. Exhaustive articles are given on all countries, treating each chronologically, with bibliographical notes at the end of each period. Its index is incorporated in the text. When a subject deals with several countries it is treated under one with cross references from all the others. A general bibliography is given at the end of volume one and genealogical charts and a chronology of important events from B. C. 4777. The new edition, which will bring the work down to the present time, will make it very valuable to a library.

The new feature in, *Who's who in America*, will be of great help to the librarian. Under an author's name is given a list of his writings. Following each title is the date of first publication, with a combined letter and number symbol which refers to a list of publishers.

Leyboldt & Iles' *Annotated list of books for girls and women and their clubs* covers the entire field of literature, history, art, etc. It is well indexed and contains the form for a constitution and by-laws of a girl's club.

Rev. C: E. Little's *Cyclopedia of classified dates* replaces all previous publications of its kind. It is alphabetically arranged under countries, which are divided chronologically under army and navy, art, science and nature, births and deaths, church, letters, society and miscellany. Its index is very complete.

As an appendix there is a calendar for every year of the Christian era, with a short history of the calendar.

In Lossing's *Popular history of the United States* we find a very good alphabet of United States history, politics, and commerce.

For an interesting and an accurate account of the history of art we turn to Lübke. It is well illustrated and has an index of ancient and modern artists, and places treated upon in his books.

Matson's *References for literary workers* is a great deal in scope like Brookings and Ringwalt's *Briefs for debate*. It, however, covers a broader field of subjects.

Rothwell's *Mineral industry* is the best annual on this subject. Its table of contents, which is very full, is alphabetically arranged with countries under subject headings.

Mulhall's *Dictionary of statistics* contains statistics on all industries of this nature. It is arranged alphabetically by subject, each of the larger subjects introduced with a conspectus, or general table, showing the approximate figures for each country for every 10 years. Then each country is dealt with in detail. A full index with a list of reference books is given.

Peck's *Dictionary of classical literature and antiquities* assumes the usual form of such books, giving the essential facts concerning questions that most often arise in the life, literature, religion, and art of classical antiquity. Bibliographical notes at the end of each article direct students to a more exhaustive treatise on the subject under investigation. In the appendix are found excellent tables of Greek and Roman weights and measures.

Ploetz' *Epitome of universal history* is chronological, arranged under country, which is brought out in heavy type, as are important dates. Good genealogical charts are a feature of the book. It is especially good in English and American history and has a good index.

The abridged edition of Poole's *Index to periodical literature* will be of value in the small library. It contains

articles found in 37 of the best periodicals, and covers from the year 1815 to the present.

All are acquainted with the office and the merits of the Publisher's weekly.

Rand, McNally's Enlarged business atlas and shipper's guide is often asked for in the small community. It not only gives the railroads of all countries, but gives the names of express companies doing business over each line. It contains maps of large cities, with streets, transportation companies, and public buildings of each. While not accurate in all instances, their Indexed atlas of the world is of fair merit. It gives historical, descriptive, and statistical matter relative to each city, with the latest census of them. Steiler's atlases are always good and not of great expense.

Sargent's Reading for the young, with its supplement, is a classified bibliography of books for young readers. It fills a place that no other books cover, and the new edition promises to be a great aid in the selection of children's literature.

Schmidt and Tanger's Dictionary of the English and German languages is, to my mind, more up to date and more attractive in makeup than Adler's.

Smith's one-volume dictionary is very good on Bible questions as far as it goes. I should most heartily recommend the purchase of Hasting's Dictionary of the Bible, as it is well edited and most accurate on all subjects treated. This is very expensive, but where possible it would be well to have these volumes in the library.

The Statesman's year book, a statistical and historical annual of the civilized world, is very good for questions pertaining to foreign countries. Little space is devoted to the United States. At the end of the pages devoted to a country is given bibliographical notes and statistical tables. The biographical notices are to be relied upon. Spon's Mechanics' own book is purely of a mechanical nature, as its title would indicate. It is accurate, and one of the best authorities on the subject.

In recommending dictionaries for a

small library I lean strongly in favor of the Century, as its definitions are good, the sources of derivation of the words are accurate, and it mentions at length the derivatives. However, this is expensive for a small library, costing \$48 new, and from \$20 to \$30 second-hand. The small library could consider itself well equipped with dictionaries if it owned the Standard and Webster's International. The Standard is an authority on pronunciation; its definitions and derivatives are good. Webster's is an authority on the division of words. Both of these dictionaries have good appendices, and the colored plates scattered through the Standard are helpful on general subjects.

Stedman's two volumes, The American anthology and the Victorian anthology, give the best selections from eminent American and English authors of the period just preceding the nineteenth century and those of the nineteenth century. It contains biographical notes and good author and first line indexes.

Sturgis & Krehbiel's Annotated bibliography of fine arts stands at the head of bibliographies on this subject. The annotations are good and the index is well prepared. A special feature of the work is that it gives the Decimal classification number for each entry.

Lippincott's Universal pronouncing dictionary of biography and mythology is late and concise on the ground that it covers.

The United States Census bulletins just published, give the latest population of all towns and cities in this country of ours. It is condensed from the 10-year census. If your library has any public documents the Catalog of documents of the fifty-third and fifty-fourth congress is a necessity. There is much good and recent material in public documents that cannot be obtained elsewhere, and the reference librarian will find them a source of great help in his work. These catalogs and the Census bulletins may be obtained for the asking from the government.

Walsh's Curiosities of popular cus-

toms, and of rites, ceremonies, observances, and miscellaneous antiquities, covers about the same ground that Chambers' Book of days does, but its articles are more concise. His Handy book of literary curiosities needs little said of it.

Mrs Waters, perhaps better known as Clara E Clement, Painters, architects, engravers, and their works, is about the best one-volume edition on this subject. It covers from ancient times to the present. Her Artists of the nineteenth century, edited with Laurence Hutton, is of equal value to a small library.

Wheeler's Dictionary of noted names in fiction, includes also pseudonyms, surnames bestowed on eminent men, and analogous popular appellations often referred to in literature and conversation. It is very good for quick reference work. Wheeler & Wheeler's Familiar allusions contains names of celebrated statues, paintings, palaces, county seats, ruins, churches, ships, streets, etc. Their Who wrote it? is very useful in searching for authors of books. It is alphabetically arranged under author and title.

Willsey's Harper's book of facts is a classified history of the world, and with Larned it would be well to have it in every library. It is concise, and in all cases can be depended upon. Under large cities it gives a chronology of the important events connected with the place. Under main heads, such as sculpture, it gives a list of the most eminent sculptors of ancient and modern times. It has copious tables. The World's Almanac, or the Tribune, both cover about the same ground, is a compilation of most every conceivable subject, mostly statistics. Athletic records are given.

Young's Concordance to the Bible is the most complete and useful book of its kind.

The four volumes known as the Old south leaflets, contain reprints of the constitutions of many of the large countries. The Magna Charta is given, and many other important documents of history.

List of Reference Books for a Library of from 3000 to 5000v.*

Adams, C. K. Manual of historical literature. 1889. Harper. \$2.50.

Allibone, S. A. Critical dictionary of English literature. 1893. 3v. Lippincott. \$22.50.

Allibone, S. A. Supplement to the critical dictionary of English Literature. 1892. 2v. Lippincott. \$1.3.

Appleton's. American annual cyclopædia. \$5.

Appleton's. Cyclopædia of American biography. 1895. 6v. \$30.

Bartlett, J., ed. Familiar quotations. 1892. Little. \$3.

Bliss, E. M., ed. Cyclopædia of missions. 1891. 2v. Funk. \$12.

Bowker, R. R. and Iles, G., ed. Reader's guide to economic, social, and political science. 1892. Putnam. \$1.

Brookings, W. D: and Ringwalt, R. C: Briefs for debate. 1900. Longmans. \$1.25.

Century Co. Century cyclopædia of names. n. d. Century company. \$10.50.

Chambers, R. Book of days. 1893. 2v. Lippincott. \$7.

Champlin, J. D. jr. Young folks' cyclopædia of common things. Ed. 2. 1896. Holt. \$1.60.

Champlin, J. D. jr. Young folks' cyclopædia of games and sports. 1890. Holt. \$1.60.

Champlin, J. D. Jr. Young folks' cyclopædia of persons and places. 1900. Holt. \$1.60.

Channing, E: and Hart, A. B., ed. Guide to the study of American history. 1896. Ginn. \$2.15.

Chisholm, G: G:, ed. The Times' gazetteer of the world. 1899. The Times office. Formerly pub. by Longmans. \$5.

Crabb, G., comp. English synonyms. New ed. rev. 1901. Harper. \$1.25.

Cumulative index to periodicals; monthly and annual. Cumulative index company. \$5.

Edgren, H. and Burnet, P. B., comp. French and English dictionary. 1901. Holt. \$2.

Fletcher, W. I., ed. A. L. A. index to general literature. 1901. Houghton. \$9.

Gardiner, S. R., ed. School atlas of English history. 1890. Longmans. \$1.50.

Gordy, W. F. and Twitchell, W. I. Pathfinder of American history. 1898. Lee. \$1.20.

Goss, H. and Baker, G. A., ed. Index to St Nicholas, 1901. Cumulative index company. \$3.

Hazell's annual. Scribner. \$1.50.

Hopkins, A. A. Scientific American cyclopædia of receipts, notes, and queries. 1892. Munn. \$5.

Hoyt, J. K. Cyclopædia of practical quotations. 1896. Funk. \$6.

Johnson, A. J. Johnson's universal cyclopædia. 1900. 8v. Appleton. \$48.

Kiepert, H: Atlas antiquus. n. d. Scribner. \$2.50.

Lalor, J. J., ed. Cyclopædia of political science, political economy and political his-

*Submitted at the meeting of Ohio Library association, 1901, with the foregoing paper.

tory of the United States. 1899. 3v. Merrill. \$15.

Larned, J. N., ed. History for ready reference from the best historians, biographers, and specialists. New ed. 1901.

Leonard, J. W., ed. Who's who in America? 1901-1902. 1901. Marquis. \$2.48.

Leypoldt, A. H. and Iles, G. List of books for girls and women and their clubs. 1895. Library Bureau. \$1.

Little, Rev. C. E. Cyclopædia of classified dates. 1900. Funk. \$10.

Lossing, B. J. Popular cyclopædia of the United States. 1893. 2v. Harper. \$15.

Lubke, W. Outlines of the history of art. 1891. Dodd. \$7.50.

Matson, H. References for literary workers. 1893. McClurg. \$2.50.

Rothwell, R. R., ed. Mineral industry, its statistics, technology, and trade—annual. Scientific publishing company. \$5.

Mulhall, M. G. Dictionary of statistics. Ed. 4. 1898. Routledge. \$8.50.

Peck, H. T., ed. Harper's dictionary of classical literature and antiquities. 1897. American book company. \$6.

Ploetz, C., comp. Epitome of ancient, mediæval and modern history. 1901. Houghton. \$3.

Fletcher, W. and Poole, M. Poole's index to periodical literature, abridged 1815-1899. 1901. Houghton. \$9. Publishers' weekly, \$3.

Rand, McNally & Co. Enlarged business atlas and shipper's guide. 1901. Rand. \$15.

Rand, McNally & Co. Indexed atlas to the world. 1897. 2v. Rand. \$18.50.

Sargent, J. F. Reading for the young with supplement. New ed. 1901. Library Bureau. \$2.50.

Schmidt, I. and Tanger, G., comp. Dictionary of the English and German languages. 1896. Lemcke. \$5.20.

Smith, W. Dictionary of the Bible. 1884. Coates. \$2.

Spon's. Spon's mechanics own book. Ed. 5. 1898. Spon. \$2.

Standard Dictionary of the English Language. 1895. 2v. Funk. \$15.

Stedman, E. C., ed. American anthology. 1900. Houghton. \$1.90.

Stedman, E. C., ed. Victorian anthology. 1895. Houghton. \$1.60.

Sturgis, R. and Krehbiel, H. E. Annotated bibliography of the fine arts. 1897. Library Bureau. \$1.

Thomas, J., ed. Lippincott's universal pronouncing dictionary of biography and mythology. 1901. 2v. \$15.

U. S. Census Office. Bulletins. Free.

U. S. Document's Office. Catalog of the documents of the Fifty-third and Fifty-fourth congress. Free.

Walsh, W. S. Curiosities of popular customs, and of rites, ceremonies, observances, and miscellaneous antiquities. 1898. Lippincott. \$3.50.

Walsh, W. S. Handy book of literary curiosities. 1893. Lippincott. \$3.50.

Waters, Mrs C. E. C. Painters, architects, engravers, and their works. Ed. 12. 1892. Houghton. \$3.

Waters, Mrs C. E. C. and Hutton. Artists of the nineteenth century. 1889. Houghton. \$3.

Webster, N. International dictionary. 1901. Merriam. \$10.

Wheeler, W. A. Explanatory and pronouncing dictionary of noted names of fiction. 1892. Houghton. \$2.

Wheeler, W. A. and Wheeler, C. G. Familiar allusions. 1891. Houghton. \$2.

Wheeler, W. A. and Wheeler, J. C. H. G. Who wrote it? 1892. Lee. \$2.

Harper's book of facts. 1895. Harper. \$8.

World's Almanac. 1901. New York world. 25 cents.

Young, R. Analytical concordance to the Bible, with lexicons. Ed. 6. Funk. \$6.50.

Total cost of above list of books, \$424.58.

What Periodicals Should Be Purchased--A Personal Opinion*

George Stockwell, Westfield (Mass.) Atheneum

Why should a library purchase periodicals at all? When a stranger has an hour or more to wait for a train he very likely asks for the library; it is not the books he wishes, but the periodicals, and he should have the periodicals which help him pass his hour. When there is a wild flurry in the stock market, or when the convention meets in Boston, the townsman or townswoman wishes to get the quickest information. The library should have the newspapers and magazines which will tell him all about it. There has been the hint of a discovery in chemistry; it may be weeks, months, or years before the discovery has been made complete; but the student wishes to keep trace of that new element, and he goes to the reading-room for the periodicals which will keep him informed. Therefore, any library which wishes to have periodicals should have them for these three classes of people: those who wish amusement, or to pass away their time; those who wish to keep abreast of the doings of the day; and those who wish genuine instruction,

* Read at meeting of Western Massachusetts library club, June 6, 1901.

and no one of these classes should be recognized before another.

The name of periodicals is legion. There are hundreds and thousands and millions of them; excellent ones, very good ones, good ones, fair ones, unsatisfactory ones, poor ones, and worthless ones. Opinions and tastes differ. A says this is worthless, but B says it is excellent. Both A and B are educated men and pay taxes. The problem is not always simple. First, one must have the periodicals which people wish to read in the building; then, one must have the periodicals which people may take home, for some periodicals should be circulated as books; how can one unravel that Chinese tangle in a room where people are coming and going? Then there is a class of periodicals which is not read much in the building, and circulates very little, but which, when bound, is referred to constantly. It is better to subscribe for these periodicals as they are issued, and bind them, than to wait and buy a whole volume. Among this latter class are Blackwood's and Edinburgh review.

Of the general magazines we certainly should have the Atlantic, Century, Scribner's, Chataquan, Harper's, New England, Lippincott's, McClure's. Should we have Cosmopolitan and Munsey's? I think so, but let us draw the line somewhere, and here is the place. There are so many 10-cent and 5-cent magazines, the Young Munsey's, Peterson's, the Philistine; the Smart set, the Black cat, etc. These would have many readers. The same rule which governs the selection of books, governs the selection of magazines. There are better things for the money.

The New illustrated is one of the magazines which our library has been receiving for many years, and which seems to me a waste of money. Its chief advantage is that it is published about three weeks ahead of time. It has no title-page or index. The name of the month is on the colored cover, but tear that off and one has no idea when it was published; there are no volume numbers, but it is indexed in Poole.

Truth is another magazine which a small library cannot afford to take. The Overland, Granite monthly, and other local magazines, should not be taken by a small library, unless there are some local reasons, as, for instance, the town having people from the locality represented, or unless there is some special interest in that locality. A library in Massachusetts will certainly have the New England.

Of juveniles there are St Nicholas and the Youth's companion. The Young people's weekly looks like a good paper, but with us it is never read; Harper's Round table is no more.

There are a great many illustrated weeklies on the market and every library should have one of these, and that one is Harper's weekly. If one can afford it, it is well to take the Illustrated London news, as that gives a different life from ours. Leslie's weekly is good, but if one cannot take all of them drop Leslie's, and if only one, take Harper's. I should not take more than these three.

Of the magazines devoted to ladies, one should have the Ladies' home journal and Harper's bazar. I am sorry that Harper's bazar is a monthly. It cannot be issued too often for most ladies, and a month is a long time to wait. Harper Bros. should be commended for their honorable action in extending our subscriptions to the Bazar. It is not every publisher who does that.

Of the comic papers those generally subscribed for are Life, Puck, Judge, and sometimes Punch. Punch is a comic paper. It is a question whether a library should have Puck or Judge; they are more or less vulgar and sometimes worse; it may seem like prudery to drop them. The political cartoons are of value; sick people like them and the boys —. When the boys get uneasy in our children's room because they "have read all the books," we bring them an armful of Pucks and Judges. It would be better to bring something else? Yes, but we haven't anything else. We also send them to sick people. I shall recommend Puck and Judge to my library committee every year. If you feel

that you cannot afford both of these papers drop Judge rather than Puck. Judge is political; you might be accused of partiality if you kept that and not Puck, but I have never discovered Puck's political party, and it is not as coarse as Judge.

Of the current thought magazines, one would subscribe for the American monthly Review of reviews; for Edinburgh Review, Blackwood's, Nineteenth century, and Forum—for binding if for no other reason. The North American is heavy, but I believe in taking it; the Fortnightly and Contemporary are good, and Current history is good for a digest of the news. The International monthly is another good magazine. Of the weeklies one should have the Living age, which is an eclectic; the Outlook or Independent, or both, which used to be religious weeklies, and have retained a great deal of their religious character; the Nation, which includes very reliable literary reviews; Public opinion, an eclectic giving editorials on all sides of all questions. Then if one could he would have the World's work, Great round world, and the Literary digest. The Pathfinder is fairly good, but it is printed on miserable, cheap, yellowish paper. Unless it reforms I shall recommend dropping it from our library.

The library should have one library magazine, either the Library journal or PUBLIC LIBRARIES, or both if it can afford it. If I could not have both I should take PUBLIC LIBRARIES. The articles in it are especially good for a small library.

Of the literary periodicals one would have the Bookman, the Dial, and the Critic. The Nation has been mentioned before. A new bi-monthly, called the Booklover, is good, but I should not advise a small library subscribing for it. The Book-buyer is quite good. The reviews in the Literary world are not up to date, and even when they do appear are sometimes astonishing. Many of the general magazines contain book reviews. The trouble with most literary reviews is that they are partial.

There is a tradition that a library should not subscribe for religious magazines. But if the library could have a good, religious periodical, representing each denomination in town, it would be a great thing. The difficulty is that the library must represent all or none, and it cannot afford to represent all. If I were the librarian of New Marlboro (which has no library) I would recommend the Congregationalist, even if I had to omit something else. The people in New Marlboro are practically all Congregationalists, and the paper would interest and not offend. Our library quite often has calls for the Catholic world, not from Roman Catholics, but from Protestants, who wish to use its articles in writing papers. If an individual belonging to a society wishes to give a religious paper we would accept it. We should not refuse them because they do not agree with us, as I have known libraries to do.

The library should have one educational periodical for the teachers. Most libraries take Education, but I prefer the Journal of education (a weekly). The teachers seem to like it better. As there is a normal school in Westfield we have four educational periodicals; last year we had six, but the two dropped were seldom used.

It is customary to have an agricultural paper; but they are seldom read, and I should not recommend many libraries subscribing for one.

The library should subscribe for Popular science monthly. There is another monthly called Popular science (it used to be the Popular science news). This I have found very interesting, but it doesn't seem to have any other reader. Birds and nature, a little monthly with colored plates, costing \$1.50 a year, should be in every library. The Scientific American and its supplement should be in the reading-room. If one cannot afford both we would have the supplement. For an architectural magazine, the Building edition of the Scientific American seems to me better than the American architect. It is certainly less expensive. It does not seem neces-

sary to have Cassier's electrical review, Engineering magazine, etc., in many of our libraries. Most libraries take the Musical courier, but our library dropped it last year. Most of it is devoted to personal notes—Mr and Mrs Brown-Smith had an enjoyable musicale at their beautiful home, etc.

One art periodical should be subscribed for, and a good one is Masters in art. It is a monthly, costing \$1.50 a year. Each month is devoted to one artist, giving reproductions of his best works, his portrait, a biography, a bibliography, and criticisms. The Art interchange and Art amateur are two good papers of entirely different style from Masters in art. The Interchange is better than the Amateur. A few years ago the Amateur was the better.

By all means subscribe for Outing; it is a good, clean, sporting magazine.

If a library can have a magazine in a foreign language let it be Revue des Deux Mondes. Few of us can afford to spend our allowances on a foreign magazine, but French students find this one very useful for instruction and for language. When there is a large French-Canadian constituency I believe in taking a French newspaper.

The library must have all its local newspapers, and every library in western Massachusetts must have the Springfield Republican and the evening edition of the Union. The evening Union does not contain as many locals as the morning edition, but an evening paper is supposed to give the news of the day, and the library should have one besides its local daily; therefore, take the evening edition of the Union instead of the morning edition. The library should have at least one Boston and one New York paper. I prefer the Boston Herald and the New York Tribune. The Advertiser of Boston is good. The Evening transcript comes the next day, but will be found useful. Many people like the Boston Journal. One's newspaper is a matter of taste, but we must be sure that different political parties are represented. The New York Times is excellent if you wish for more than

one New York paper; and there is the Sun. It seems to me waste of money to subscribe for newspapers published in distant cities unless there is some real interest. The Sunday Republican should be in every library, and if the library is open Sunday, at least one other Sunday paper. The Sunday edition of any of those mentioned is good.

The library should subscribe for everything published in its town; often-times they will be given it.

If the library does not circulate its current members, it does not seem necessary to duplicate, except, perhaps, in the case of St Nicholas and Harper's. We know how rapidly St Nicholas wears out, and how convenient it is to have a second set to bind. I am very glad to get hold of any old magazines for our library, so that when our copies wear out we will have something to fall back on. It saves a great deal of money in the end.

The library will receive gifts. Among the periodicals often given are, Wall street journal, Our dumb animals, Union signal, Woman's journal, Travelers' record, and Book reviews. Get all the library bulletins that you can on your list, especially if those library bulletins are not confined entirely to lists of that library's additions.

You will keep a check-list of everything, gift or purchase. We have found catalog cards the best for this purpose; one card to a periodical. On the face we put the name, how often issued (m., w., etc.), and if a weekly, the day of the week when issued. If the periodical takes a vacation for any month, we state it. Then we divide the card into two columns, putting six months on one column and six months on the other. When July's magazine comes in, we stamp the date opposite Jl. If it is a weekly there is not room for dates, but we put 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 opposite the month. We do not check dailies unless they do not come. On the back of the card we write the name, how often issued, publisher's price, source (we order from agents because then we have club rates), date when ordered, cost price, and date

of expiration or subscription. We have found this the most convenient way for us. We do not arrange the cards in strictly alphabetical order, but have the monthlies in one alphabet, the weeklies in another, the annuals in another, and so on.

The usefulness of the periodical is greatly increased by having a periodical index. The Annual literary index is issued as an annual supplement to Poole. The Cumulative index is issued monthly, and is cumulative for each three months. Another index is issued as a supplement to the Cumulative book index. This latter will index only a few magazines, but will be cumulative for the year. The Cumulative book index is a very useful publication. It is cumulative by the year so that the annual number gives by author, subject, and title, all the books published during the year. It costs \$3.

Are there any other periodicals than those mentioned that you would like to take? Certainly—but—have you looked at your bill?

How to Use the Library in Making a Bibliography*

Electra C. Doren, librarian, Dayton, Ohio

The preparation of a really good bibliography upon any topic requires some knowledge of the subject to start with. It involves a careful analysis of its divisions and subdivisions, a careful synthesis of the parts, and a comprehensive and discriminating view of its relations to other subjects, as well as some knowledge of the technical and popular nomenclature of it and accuracy in bibliographic statement, to say nothing of examining authorities. In short, it is an admirable exercise of the student's constructive powers, and furnishes a thorough test of his knowledge and of his ability to organize literary materials in succinct and usable form.

The limits of this article do not permit me to go deeply into the subject of the making of the book lists or the

*Extract from an address to the students in Dayton High school.

great amount of help which may be extracted from catalogs and indexes. I have therefore condensed the matter into a few general directions:

1 Know the subject that you wish to investigate by name, i. e., the technical, popular, and synonymous terms for it.

2 Know your alphabet thoroughly.

3 In consulting the card catalog, learn to distinguish subject heading from author and title entries. In General catalog no. 2, subject headings are written in red/ink.

4 Pay attention to analytical sub-statements below the subject heading, and note that the paging where such matter is to be found follows the imprint of the book, or is placed after the book number.

5 Note whether the card contains any printed heading, such as bibliography, biography, criticism; also, at foot of the card, note contents or notes which will give you a clue to the character of the book.

6 Attend to the subdivisions of the subject and make use of the obvious guide cards.

7 Note the references in red ink to other subjects and diligently pursue them.

8 Make accurate notes as you go along.

Finally, please don't plant your elbows in the card tray while you talk with your dearest friend. The intensity of your feeling is likely to annihilate the cards. Take revenge upon the librarian and her assistants. Ask all the questions you can.

Speaking of subserviency of criticism in England Matthew Arnold says: We have the Edinburgh review, existing as an organ of the old Wigs, and for as much play of the mind as may suit its being that; we have the Quarterly review, existing as an organ of the Tories, and for as much play of the mind as may suit its being that; we have the British Quarterly review, existing as an organ of the political Dissenters, etc., and in a great many cases our own reviews might be similarly classified.

Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$1 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$4 a year
Single number	- - - - -	20 cents

PUBLIC LIBRARIES does not appear in August or September, and 10 numbers constitute a volume.

THE year 1901, in library work, was a worthy successor of those which in past time have been so full of good accomplished and grounds for hope for the future.

The generosity of Mr Carnegie in liberal gifts for library buildings has known no abatement.

All over the country is there an increased interest in not only the scope of the library itself, but in the principles of building and the history and development of architecture, as it has waited on the needs of public buildings. This is traced directly to the large expenditures in prospect for library buildings. No splendid library building has opened this year, though plans have been discussed for St Louis public library, the John Crerar at Chicago, and the Hearst library at the State university of California. But in the words of another, it is after all not the few great libraries, but the thousand small ones that may do most for the people; and all over the country, from ocean to ocean, north and south, are busy people planning and working out plans for hundreds of new small libraries in the midst of deeply interested communities. Branch libraries for the large cities are steadily growing in numbers, and foreshadow the plan of the future for a large central building for technical and supervisory work, and storing only unusual books.

One of the most gratifying things has been the progress of the work for children. At first it was such a pleasant, responsive field that a great deal of sentimentality passed for rational sentiment; but the past year has seen the work largely grow away from that, and

librarians coming to understand that there must be serious study for best means of directing childish enthusiasm after it has been aroused lest it drift into maudlin artificiality. The school for children's librarians at the Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, the class at Pratt institute, and the best workers with children, are strong factors for directing the work into better channels.

The home delivery of books by several libraries in Massachusetts is another step in advance which belongs to the year 1901. Whether this will be a permanent feature in public library work remains to be seen, but it certainly is an innovation.

The effect of the work of the various regular library schools is clearly being felt and appreciated in a constantly widening field. The library boards seem to have realized in the past year, more generally than before, that an expensive equipment in building and books, library machinery, needs the brain and hand of an expert just as much as a piece of real mechanical equipment.

The system of library institutes inaugurated in several states bids fair to raise the general appreciation of library work. It cannot be too strongly urged, however, that the only province of these institutes is to carry the ideals, the plans, and the *esprit de corps* of large library gatherings into communities and libraries, that on account of their isolation and small size cannot participate in the privileges of large meetings.

The event of most general interest, perhaps, has been the adoption by the Library of Congress of the preparation and distribution of printed catalog cards. This is the fulfillment of a long deferred hope of the A. L. A. for a central bureau for the extension of co-operative work, which will, doubtless, grow until the library at Washington becomes in name and in fact a national library. This last seems all the more desirable in view of the helpful and interested spirit which Mr Putnam has displayed in the past year in visiting the various library meetings over the country, and

in extending, as far as possible under the present arrangements, the assistance of the Library of Congress.

The year, on the whole, has been a good one, and there is every reason to press forward, with renewed energy and hope to the duties opening up with the coming of the new year.

THE Newark (N. J.) public library is to be congratulated on securing John Cotton Dana as its librarian. Mr Dana represents the most advanced ideas in library work today. A scholarly man of fine temperament, with a keen insight into the problems not only of the library world, but of life in general, radical but just in his views, with a deep sense of the responsibility of his relation to his environment, he has stood in the front rank of those who lead in his chosen field since he first entered the work. His personal qualifications are very attractive, and a company in which he speaks is always attentive, and whether his views meet approval at the moment or not he leaves a conviction of high purpose and deliberate judgment in what he says, so that sooner or later he convinces the majority of his hearers of the wisdom of his words.

The papers of Western Massachusetts, as well as those in Springfield and Boston, speak in the highest terms of his work in Massachusetts, and rather sharply comment on the wisdom of the Springfield library board in not making the salary at Springfield attractive enough to keep Mr Dana in that city. The explanation of the board to a band of petitioners was rather complimentary if remarkable, to the effect that as they could not hope to keep Mr Dana always, they might as well let him go at this time and not pay any more money, with the possibility of soon having to pay the same to another librarian not so desirable. The library interests of Newark will be in good hands in Mr Dana's charge, and library matters in the vicinity will feel the good effects of his coming.

THE need of intelligent discussion of library plans, and the dissemination of rational ideas on the subject, will be seen from the following, an editorial from the leading newspaper in a city recently receiving a gift of \$35,000 from Mr Carnegie for a public library.

Mr Blank, head of the public library movement, yesterday morning received from Line & Blank, New York architects, a communication asking the gentleman to write and let them know if their plans and specification for such structure would be considered. This called for a response from Mr Blank, who informed the parties that no outsiders would be considered in any nature, as the local architects are equal to the occasion and are now industriously working upon the plans for the edifice.

Architect Non has his pencil drawings well under way, and had Mr Blank visit his office yesterday for the purpose of inspecting same. The sketches call for a stone building of elegant architecture that will be a great credit not only to this city after the structure is erected, but the draughtsman's abilities in that regard. The plans are not yet complete, but from the finished portions it can be seen that something that can be termed "dead swell" is being gotten up by the parties. The other architects are also busy with their plans, but none will be ready for submission by December 29, which is the date set by the councilmanic committee for all plans to be finished and placed in the hands of the officials for scrutinization before selection and adoption.

IT is not quite fair to publish to the world that this or that public library has banished certain books. The statement is rarely true, and is oftenest first started by persons interested in pushing books which have declined in favor. The facts are usually, a library has a certain amount to expend in books and can only choose a certain number for purchase. The judgment of the committee and the librarian selects certain books from the enormous output as best suited to the needs of the community, and the persons interested in the books not chosen at once set up the cry that they have been banished. A discussion arises, a good advertisement, and so it goes on till something else attracts attention. Librarians should be slow to take part in such a thing; facts are rarely stated correctly. It is a good plan under the circumstances to "put yourself in his place."

Helps for the Modern Library*

Grace Ashley, Springfield, Mass.

After the new books are ready for use the next question for the modern library is how best to tell readers about them.

The newspaper as a tool—It finds the newspaper ready to help. Through the paper the library informs people about some of the new books added, about exhibits of various kinds, books or pictures, and about the library news in general. It sometimes puts into the paper a special book list perhaps with an introductory note and annotations, and then borrows the type and has reprints struck off at a low price for circulation. The secretary of our club in this way obtained the copies of *The best books of 1901* for a small library to buy, in our hands today. These library items, clipped and pasted into a scrapbook, form a history of the library useful for reference and for material for the annual report. Also, a file of newspaper clippings, including obituaries of prominent local men and women, the doings of clubs, their officers, etc., and the development of the town in general, answer some demands for local history. For example, in Springfield the collection of bridge clippings has proved useful.

The monthly bulletin as a tool—Another avenue of communication between the library and its patrons is the monthly bulletin. The Library bulletin company, of Boston, Mass., publishes bulletins for about a dozen libraries, including that of Springfield. Each library furnishes material to be printed, and, under certain agreements, the Bulletin company publishes the journal. The City library, Springfield, has nearly 2000 names on its mailing list, including some of its readers and many libraries, and receives two or three hundred copies each month at the library for general distribution. Through this organ the library, in a more systematic way than is done in the newspaper, acquaints

many people with the new books added from month to month, and, by means of special lists, hints at the resources of the main library.

Special bulletins as tools—In addition to the monthly bulletin the Springfield library publishes from time to time special bulletins. These vary all the way from an elaborate illustrated booklet, called the Cromwell list, down to reprints made from borrowed newspaper type and even lists printed with our mimeograph. The Cromwell list perhaps illustrates, as well as any, the possibilities of special bulletins as tools. We took a recent novel, Cromwell's own, as a key, and bought many copies. Then we brought together all the books in the library, novels and others, dealing with Cromwell and his times, and bought more copies where necessary to make an attractive collection. To the inside of the back cover of each was attached a slip of paper on which was printed the words: "If you care to read something further about Cromwell and his times you will find the following books of interest. All the Cromwell books in the library are, for your convenience, brought together in one place in the delivery room." This note was followed by a short annotated list. The handsome booklet was kept on sale at the desk. The library did not stop here, but collected prints, photographs, etc., for a Cromwell exhibit. This proved so interesting at Springfield that it went from place to place as a loan collection for about a year. All this resulted in the sale of most of the copies of the booklet, the proceeds somewhere near covering the cost of printing, making of cuts, etc., and in a wide use of the books thus brought to people's attention. Also, wherever the booklet went, if we may believe what people say, it helped to confirm the library's reputation for good printing.

Other special bulletins have proved to be fruitful in the way of interesting people in good reading; for example: *Things children should know*; *100 of the best novels*; *A list of interesting books*. Also, twice during the long

*A paper read before the Western Massachusetts Library club, October 18, 1901.

summer vacation the library has guided the reading of a few young folks by means of a short list of good books provided for a vacation reading class. Each candidate for the class agreed to read six books on the list, and when the task was accomplished received a certificate to that effect.

The bulletins of other libraries as tools— The bulletins of other libraries, received through exchange or otherwise, are tools for the modern library. At Springfield some of these are passed around and read by the members of the staff. Then a few bulletins, for example those of Boston, Providence, Salem, and Worcester, are bound and put into the library. Others are filed in pamphlet cases for reference; and from the rest all special lists are clipped and filed in envelopes by subject. They come into use when some patron asks for a list of books on a certain subject, and when the library itself compiles a special list for publication.

For a few cents the modern library can sometimes buy extra copies of special bulletins of other libraries, can check in them the books on its own shelves, and pass them out to patrons. The Wisconsin Free library commission furnishes well annotated lists; for example, the one on Birds and the one on Memorial day. The University of New York has good things. The Cleveland Public library issued a pamphlet called References for third grade teachers, by M. H. Prentice, in which the descriptions of the books are especially good. The Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, has published a book an inch thick for 50 cents, called Books for use in schools, in which the books are also well described. The report of the committee on the Relations of public libraries to public schools of the National educational association, 1899, contains valuable lists, and the American Library Association publishes, among other good things, George Iles' Book for girls and women and their clubs. All these and others like them furnish valuable assistance to librarians.

Publishers' lists as tools— The modern library receives a constant stream of printed things from publishers. At Springfield a long row of pamphlet cases holds the latest catalogs from this source, for reference. Besides their catalogs the publishers get out many attractive leaflets, sometimes with illustrations. To some of these the library adds the book number, plainly written in ink, and posts them on the bulletin board for a few days. Other leaflets, the items checked with a blue pencil to indicate that the books are in the library, are distributed from the delivery desk.

With the home delivery of books in mind, to obtain a further supply of these publishers' lists, we sent out last August the following circular letter:

To the Publisher:

Will you kindly send to this library during the next three months from 10 to 25 copies each of the special circulars and lists which you may have issued during the past 12 months, or may issue during the next three months, especially those which have to do with a single book or with books of a certain class?

I ask for these lists because I wish to distribute them from the library to our readers with the hope of arousing an interest, especially, in books other than fiction; though I would like lists having to do with fiction as well as other books. We do not buy all of your publications of course; but we commonly buy the most widely advertised and most largely sold of the books you issue. Having them on our shelves we can, in some cases, through one of your circulars, call attention to the fact in a better way than we can from our own simple barren list. We hope to make particularly good use of these notes in our plan for delivering books at the borrower's doors.

The response has been generous, and the bulletins still continue to come. Each week our home delivery subscribers receive a batch of these book notices on which the titles of books in the library are checked.

Ginn & Company sent a little leaflet, entitled Children's books, their selection and influence. A preface by Walter Taylor Field, reprinted from the Dial, is followed by a list of their classics for children, including literature, natural history and geography. We learned from the publishers that they would be willing to print on this leaflet the words,

These books are all in your city library, and mail a copy, we furnishing the list, to every public school-teacher in the city, and would send us 100 copies besides.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. sent us 100 copies of their Riverside school library, a descriptive list. We have stamped on the outside the words, These books are all in the city library, and shall give them away at discretion.

To sum up—The newspaper item, the monthly bulletin, the special bulletin, the circulating of publishers' lists bearing library marks, all these might come under the head of modern library advertising. The modern library believes in keeping in touch with the community and the library world through the printed page, and standing as it does for culture in the community, it believes in obtaining for its publications the best paper, type, and ink it can afford, and in paying as much attention as possible to artistic arrangement, knowing as it does the influence of good printing.

A card catalog case, made up of large, deep drawers, with two rows of cards to a drawer, was some years ago the best thing obtainable, and a good many libraries bought them. Having now outgrown them they are purchasing again for additional equipment exactly the same sort of case, in spite of the fact that cases made up of small drawers or trays, with only one row of cards in each, are more convenient in many ways. They take up less floor space per thousand cards; no one person can monopolize a large part of the catalog because each drawer is removable. As a result many more people can consult the catalog at the same time, and each with more convenience and comfort, as he can take to a table the tray containing the cards which interest him, and can examine them without interruption.

In some matters uniformity is a virtue; but where the public are to be served a consistent regard for their comfort and convenience is of fundamental importance.

What Critical Magazines Give Best Aid in the Selection of Books*

Jennie Elrod, librarian, Columbus, Ind.

The librarian of the small library, to whom this talk is especially addressed, is, by the nature of her environment, dependent upon book reviews for the selection of new books. Situated as she is in a community where the so-called bookstore might more truthfully be termed a cigar-stand, she cannot choose except at the option of the critic, and, alas, how often does the critic fail to tell her the very thing which she was most anxious to know.

She should, of course, understand her public well enough that she might be able, if furnished with proper reviews, to discriminately select what will not only please, but prove profitable. Without this knowledge the quality of a review matters little, or, at any rate, becomes a secondary issue. For instance, if her public contains a large number of people who are well informed on electricity, it matters not how technical be the books she purchases for them; but if, on the other hand, they are only interested, and not well informed, it behooves her to know whether the book be elementary from the standpoint of the expert or the beginner.

It is true that the librarian is usually ably assisted in making new orders by what is called a book committee, but too often this committee deserts as soon as their particular desires have been gratified; and, after all, the librarian is the only one who is in a position to know just what the public wants, and upon her must devolve the labor of finding that which most nearly meets this want.

The first concern is with the nature of the reviews which are published. It seems, indeed, that the day when the lamb, as represented by the author, and the lion, in the person of the critic, shall dwell together in happiness has truly arrived. The larger per cent of the criticisms which reach us are purely

*Read before Indiana Library association, Indianapolis, Oct. 30, 1901.

impressionistic, judged wholly by the personal taste, environment, and education of the writer. Few, indeed, are they who consider from an academic or comparative standpoint. Only by experience and observation are we able to judge correctly; and in this day, when every man is his own critic, too often does the conventional ideas and standards of the time obscure the profound conception of an unforced and authoritative utterance of some soul, while another book containing no expression of life, no secret of race inheritance, temperament or genius, is placed high upon the pedestal of popular adoration.

But written as are so many reviews with a half glance at the contents, and, as is particularly the case with fiction, before any perspective is reached, the wonder is not that they are faulty, but that they are not more so; and if comparison under such circumstances proves difficult, classification, the librarians' stand-by, becomes practically impossible. In fact, the really critical review which not only treats of the book comparatively, but gives some idea of its classification, is seldom seen; the majority partaking more of the nature of an advertisement.

I would not have the idea prevail that this is the fault of the reviewer in every case. Like the rest of us he must live, and when the magazine or newspaper for which he works stipulates that all reviews of books written by persons hailing from a certain locality shall be favorable, what is left for him but to write such. When it is known that in a city, not 1000 miles from Indianapolis, a reviewer was relieved because a favorable criticism of a book, by a prominent politician of the opposite faith, was written, and escaping the eagle eye of the editor, duly appeared, much to the consternation of the staff, we cannot wonder that many of the reviews we read are not only stilted, if not absolutely false.

In conversation with a newspaper man upon this point he insisted that such a course as this was absolutely right; that the policy of the paper stood for a cer-

tain thing, and this must be maintained at all hazards. But why? How many of the party henchmen read book reviews? As I understand it, certain departments of a newspaper are created to meet certain wants, and surely the value of all utterances will be immeasurably enhanced by the element of fairness and true speaking. And what makes this argument the more forcible is that certain and far better papers follow this method. Better no review at all than the one that is written at the dictation of a certain policy.

Some periodicals pursue the method of omission; that is, they fail to mention a book which does not reach a certain standard of excellence. That this method is not fair to the reader is apparent, and more clearly so when we consider that some of our very best critical journals often fail to review a book until it has been issued months or even a year. You are often at a loss to determine whether the review is delayed or purposely omitted.

Librarians of small libraries are not so much troubled with the problem of exclusion of what might be termed vicious literature, as that which has so little vitality that it cannot well be named; though any book which gives the reader one new thought, or a fresh bit of humor, is well worth while.

The discussion of the critical periodicals which follows is by no means exhaustive, and, as has been stated before, only includes those which more probably come within the reach of the average librarian.

The Critic, edited by Jeannette and Joseph B. Gilder, impresses one at all times with its fairness. One evidence of this is the prompt correction of any error which may have inadvertently crept in. They have a list of Library reports on popular books, gathered from the representative cities of the United States and Canada, which is intended to show what books other than fiction are being read, though the most popular novel is added. The reviews in the Critic are always just, but often too

brief. Especially is this true of the department, the Book-buyers' guide.

Harry Thurston Peck, as editor, infuses a good deal of acid into the Bookman. Apparently his judgment of a new book is often influenced by his opinion of the author rather than the book in hand. The Bookman's table and Novel notes are both valuable departments, as well as the record of sales of new books for the month. These departments in the Critic and Bookman, the one gathered from the libraries and the other from the bookseller, are not supposed in any sense to be critical, but merely show the trend of public opinion, a thing which the librarian, if she would have her library well patronized, must consider. So much space in the Bookman is devoted to matters foreign to book reviews that it cannot always be said to be of the highest practical value to the librarian.

Like the Critic and the Bookman, the Current literature is valuable as giving information about authors. The reviews collected from the best sources, under the title of the Library table, are useful. The selections from new books are often of aid also.

The New York Times Saturday review is a most valuable assistant. Filled with reviews of the latest books, the majority of them signed by well-known persons, it is at once authoritative and up to date, and I would especially emphasize both these points as being of first importance to the librarian. Too often when making up a new order the only information to be found upon the really new book is the publisher's advertisement, and while Mr Howell's opinion that no book should be read until it is a year old is very pertinent, so far there seems to be no general tendency to adopt it.

The Times review is a weekly publication, takes up the books as they are issued, and the reviews are of such character that the contents of the book, and what its particular value to your own readers would be, is easily determined.

Though we may agree with Mr Howells that Barrett Wendel's book, a Lit-

rary history of America, might better have been named a Study of New England authorship in its rise and decline, with some glances at American literature, his opinion of the Dial is of interest as being one of the very few things in the West which he found to commend. "In Chicago, meantime, at this moment the most populous and characteristic western city, there is considerable publication, and this includes a fortnightly paper, the Dial, which seems at present the most unbiased, good-humored, and sensible organ of American criticism."

As it only appears twice a month it cannot always be as prompt as some others, but its reviews are always of the highest order, the majority of them being signed, and it gives a due amount of attention to fiction.

What has been said of the Dial may, in great part, be said of the Nation, though a great many of the books which it reviews are not such as would interest the average reader.

Upon special subjects the Historical review, Science, Educational review, and Bird lore are of great assistance.

To all these might be added a number of magazines which are not essentially critical, but by reason of reviews, extracts from books, or a hint upon contents, prove useful; such are the Outlook, Independent, North American review, Literary digest, Living age, and some others.

But, as we all know, there is no royal rule by which we may discriminate, and choose as carefully as we may the public is always ready to wonder why this book is in the library and why that one is not. But,

If we could win to the Eden tree where the
four great rivers flow,
And the wreath of Eve is red on the turf as she
left it long ago;
And if we could come when the sentry slept,
and softly scurry through,
By the favor of God we might know as much
as our father Adam knew.

There can be few finer delights in life than the companionship of a great mind at its best, and this is what one gets in a good book.

List of Books on the Fine and Decorative Arts Suggested for Small Public Libraries

Grace A. Hitchcock, Fine arts department,
Boston Public library

Adeline, Jules. Adeline's Art dictionary, containing a complete index of all terms used in art, architecture. N. Y., Appleton, 1891. \$2.25.

Anderson, William J. The architecture of the Renaissance in Italy. London, Batsford, 1896. 12s 6d.

Architectural Record (quarterly). N. Y. Architectural Record Co. \$1.

Art Journal, The (monthly). London, Virtue. Year, 21s.

Barker, Edwin Atlee. The pottery and porcelain of the United States. N. Y., Putnam, 1901. Net, \$3.50.

Baxter, Lucy E. (Leader Scott). Sculpture: Renaissance and modern. N. Y., Scribner, 1886. \$2.

Bell, Nancy R. E. An elementary history of art. London, Low, 1895. 10s 6d.

Bell, Nancy R. E. Masterpieces of the great artists. London, Bell, 1895. Net, 21s.

Bell, Nancy R. E. Representative painters of the nineteenth century. London, Sampson Low, Marston & Co. Net, 30s.

Bell's Cathedral Series. London, Bell. 1s 6d each.

Berenson, Bernhard. The Central Italian painters of the Renaissance. N. Y., Putnam's Sons, 1897. \$1.

Berenson, Bernhard. The Florentine painters of the Renaissance. N. Y., Putnam, 1896. \$1.

Berenson, Bernhard. The study and criticism of Italian art. London, Bell, 1901. 10s 6d.

Berenson Bernhard. The Venetian painters of the Renaissance. N. Y., Putnam, 1897. \$1.

Brochure, Series of architectural illustration, (monthly). Boston, Bates & Guild Co. \$1.

Champlin, John Denison jr. and Charles C. Perkins. Cyclopedias of painters and paintings. N. Y., Scribner, 1886, 4v. \$20.

Chandler, Joseph Everett. The colonial architecture of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Boston, Bates & Guild, 1901. \$12.

Chesneau, Ernest. The English school of painting. London, Cassell, 1885.

Clement, Clara Erskine. Handbook of Christian symbols and stories of the saints. Boston, Houghton, 1895. \$2.

Corner, James M. and E. E. Soderholtz. Examples of domestic colonial architecture in New England. Bates & Guild, 1900. \$14.

Conway, William Martin. Early Flemish artists. London, Suley & Co., 1887. 7s 6d.

Crane, Walter. The claims of decorative art. Boston, Houghton, Mifflin, 1892. \$2.25.

Crane, Walter. Of the decorative illustration of books old and new. London, Bell, 1897. 10s 6d.

Crane, Walter. The bases of design. London, Bell, 1898. Net, 18s.

Cundall, Joseph. A brief history of wood-engraving from its invention. London, Low, 1895. 2s 6d.

Day, Lewis Foreman. Nature in ornament. London, Batsford, 1892. (Text-books of ornamental design.) 12s 6d.

Day, Lewis Foreman. Some principles of everyday art. London, Batsford, 1894. 3s 6d.

Day, Lewis Foreman. Windows—A book about stained and painted glass. London, Batsford, 1897. Net, 21s.

Dilke, Emilia Frances, Lady. French architects and sculptors of the eighteenth century. London, Bell, 1900. Net, 28s.

Dilke, Emilia Frances, Lady. French painters of the eighteenth century. London, Bell, 42s.

English Household Furniture, mainly designed by Chippendale, Adam, etc. Boston, Bates & Guild Co., 1900. \$10.

Fergusson, James. A history of architecture in all countries from the earliest times to the present day. London, Murray, 1873-76. 4v. 63s.

Fromentin, Eugene. The old masters of Belgium and Holland. Boston, Osgood & Co., 1882. \$3.

Furtwaengler, Adolf. Masterpieces of Greek sculpture. London, Heinemann, 1895. Net, 63s.

Gardner, Ernest Arthur. A handbook of Greek sculpture. Parts I, II. London, Macmillan & Co., 1896. 10s.

Glazier, Richard. A manual of historic ornament. London, Batsford, 1899. Net, 5s.

Goodyear, William Henry. A history of art. 12th ed. N. Y., Barnes & Co., 1900. \$2.80.

Goodyear, William Henry. Renaissance and modern art. Meadville, Pa., Flood & Vincent, 1894. \$1.

Goodyear, William Henry. Roman and mediæval art. N. Y., Macmillan, 1894. \$1.

Gonse, Louis. Japanese art. Chicago, Bellford-Clark Co., 1891. \$2.

Great Masters of Decorative Art. London. The Art Journal office, 1900; 30v. in 1. (Art annals.) 10s 6d.

Contents: Sir Edward Burne-Jones, by Aymer Vallance; William Morris, by Lewis F. Day; Walter Crane, with notes by himself.

Hamerton, Philip Gilbert. Etching and etchers. Boston, Roberts, 1883. \$5.

Hamlin, Alfred Dwight Foster. A text-book of the history of architecture. N. Y., Longmans, 1896. (College histories of art.) \$2.

Harrison, Jane E. Introductory studies in Greek art. London, Unwin, 1885. 7s 6d.

Havard, Henry. The Dutch school of painting. London, Cassell, 1885. 5s.

Heaton, Mrs Charles. A concise history of painting. London, Bell, 1888. 5s.

Haliday, Henry. Stained glass as an art. London, Macmillan, 1896. Net, 21s.

Hoppin, James Mason. Greek art on Greek soil. Boston, Houghton, Mifflin, 1897. \$2.

Hott, Deristhe L. The world's painters and their pictures. Boston, Ginn & Co., 1899. \$1.25.

Hurl, Estelle May. *The life of our Lord in art.* Boston, Houghton, 1898. \$3.

International Studio. Monthly. N. Y., Lane. \$3.50.

Jackson, Frank G. *Lessons on decorative design.* London, Chapman & Hall, 1897. 7d 6s.

Jacquemart, Albert. *History of the ceramic art.* London, Sampson, Low, 1873. 28s.

Jacquemart, Albert. *A history of furniture.* London, 1878. 31s 6d.

Jameson, Anna Brownell. *Legends of the Madonnas.* Boston, Houghton, 1896. \$3.

Jameson, Anna Brownell. *Legends of the monastic orders.* Boston, Houghton, 1896. \$3.

Jameson, Anna Brownell. *Sacred and legendary art.* Boston, Houghton, 1896, 2v. \$3. each.

Jones, Owen. *Grammar of ornament.* London, Quaritch, 1868. 4th ed. \$15.

Karoly, Karl. *Raphael's Madonnas and other great pictures.* London, Bell, 1894. Net, 21s.

Kent, William Winthrop. *Architectural wrought iron, ancient and modern.* N. Y., Comstock, 1888. \$5.

King, Pauline. *American mural painting.* Boston, Noyes, Platt & Co., 1901. Net, \$3.

Kingsley, Rose Georgiana. *A history of French art, 1100-1899.* London, Longmans, 1899. 12s 6d.

Kugler, Franz Theodor. *Handbook of painting. The German, Flemish and Dutch schools.* London, 1874. 2v., illus. 24s.

Kugler, Franz Theodor. *Handbook of painting. The Italian schools.* London, Murray, 1887. 2v., pls. 30s.

Larned, Walter Cranston. *Churches and castles of mediæval France.* N. Y., Scribner, 1895. Illus. \$1.50.

Lindsay, Alexander W. C., earl of Crawford and Balcarres. *Sketches of the history of Christian art.* London, Murray, 1885, 2 vols. 24s.

Litchfield, F. *Illustrated history of furniture.* London, Truslove & Shirley, 1892. L. 8vo. 20s net.

Lockwood, Luke Vincent. *Colonial furniture in America.* N. Y., Scribner, 1901, illus. \$7.50.

Longfellow, W. P. P., ed. *A cyclopedia of works of architecture in Italy, Greece, and the Levant.* N. Y., Scribner, 1895. Quarto, illus. \$25.

Luebke, Wilhelm. *Outlines of the history of art.* N. Y., Dodd, Mead & Co., 1898. 2v., 8vo. \$7.50.

Lyon, I. W. *Colonial furniture of New England.* Boston, Houghton, Mifflin, 1891. Plates, quarto. Net, \$10.

Marquand, Allan, and Arthur Lincoln Frothingham. *A text-book of the history of sculpture.* N. Y., Longmans, 1896. (College histories of art.) \$1.50.

Masters in art. (Monthly.) Boston, Bates & Guild. Plates. \$1.50.

Matthews, Brander. *Bookbindings, old and new.* N. Y., Macmillan, 1895. Illus. \$3.

Mathews, Charles Thompson. *The story of architecture: an outline of the styles in all countries.* N. Y., Appleton, 1896. Illus., 8vo. \$3.

Meyer, Franz Sales. *Handbook of ornament.* N. Y., Hessling & Spielmeyer, 1895. Plates, 8vo. \$3.60.

Meyer, Franz Sales. *A handbook of art smithing.* London, Batsford, 1896. Illus. 6s.

Mitchell, Lucy M. *History of ancient sculpture.* N. Y., Dodd, Mead, 1893. Illus. 2v. at \$7.50, \$15.

Moore, Charles Herbert. *Development and character of Gothic architecture.* 2d edition. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. Illus., 8vo. \$4.50.

Muentz, Eugene. *A short history of tapestry.* London, Cassell, 1885. Illus. 5s.

Muentz, Eugene. *Raphael. His life, works, and times.* London, Chapman & Hall, 1882. Illus. 25s.

Mumford, John Kimberly. *Oriental rugs.* N. Y., Scribner, 1901. Pls. \$7.50.

Murray, A. S. *History of Greek sculpture.* London, 1890. 2v., illus. 36s.

Muther, Richard. *The history of modern painting.* N. Y., Macmillan, 1896. 3v., illus., L. 8vo. \$20.

Pater, Walter. *The Renaissance.* London, Macmillan, 1888. 10s 6d.

Pennell, Joseph. *Modern illustration.* London, Bell, illus., 1895. 10s. 6d.

Pennell, Joseph. *Pen drawing and pen draughtsmen.* N. Y., Macmillan, 1894. Illus. \$15.

Perrot, Georges and Charles Chipiez. *History of art in Chaldea and Assyria.* London, Chapman & Hall, 1884. 2v., illus. 42s.

Perrot, Georges and Charles Chipiez. *History of art in ancient Egypt.* London, Chapman & Hall, 1883. 2v., illus. 42s.

Perrot, Georges and Charles Chipiez. *History of art in Persia.* London, Chapman & Hall, 1892. Illustrated. 21s.

Perrot, Georges and Charles Chipiez. *History of art in Phoenicia.* London, Chapman & Hall, 1885. 2v., illus. 42s.

Perrot, Georges and Charles Chipiez. *History of art in Phrygia.* London, Chapman & Hall, 1892. Illus. 15s.

Perrot, Georges and Charles Chipiez. *History of art in primitive Greece.* London, Chapman & Hall, 1894. 2v., illus. 42s.

Perrot, Georges and Charles Chipiez. *History of art in Sardinia.* London, Chapman & Hall, 1890. 2v., illus. 36s.

Perry, Walter Copeland. *Greek and Roman sculpture.* London, 1882. 31s 6d.

Prior, Edward Schroeder. *A history of Gothic art in England.* London, Bell, 1900. Illus., quarto. Net, 31s 6d.

Reber, Franz von. *History of ancient art.* N. Y., Harper, 1882. Illus. \$2, \$3.50.

Reber, Franz von. *History of mediæval art.* N. Y., Harper, 1887. Illus., 8vo. \$5.

Robinson, Edward. *Museum of fine arts, Boston. Catalog of casts. Part III. Greek and Roman sculpture.* Boston, Houghton, Mifflin Co., 1900. 50 cents.

Rose, George B. Renaissance masters. N. Y., Putnam, 1898. \$1.

Rosengarten, A. A handbook of architectural styles. N. Y., 1876. Illus., 8vo. \$2.50.

Ruskin.

Schuyler, Montgomery. American architecture. N. Y., Harper, 1892. Illus. \$2.50.

Scientific American. Building edition (monthly). N. Y., Munn & Company. Illus. Fo. \$2.50.

Singer, Hans W. and William Strang. Etching, engraving, and other methods of printing pictures. London, Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., 1897. Illus. Net. 15s.

Singleton, Esther. The furniture of our forefathers. N. Y., Doubleday & Page Co., 1900-1901. Part 1-3, L., 8vo. In course of publication. Net, \$2 each.

Smith, Thomas Roger, and John Slater. Architecture: classics and early Christian. London, 1896. Illus., 8vo, Low. 5s.

Smith, Thomas Roger. Architecture: Gothic and Renaissance. London, Low, 1896. Illus., 8vo. 5s.

Stranahan, C. H. History of French painting. N. Y., Scribner, 1895. Illus. \$3.50.

Stillman, W. J. Old Italian masters engraved by Timothy Cole. N. Y., Century Co., 1892. \$10.

Strange, Edward F. Alphabets. A handbook of lettering, with historical and practical descriptions. London, Bell, 1895. 5s.

Sturgis, Russell jr. and others. A dictionary of architecture and building. N. Y., Macmillan, 1901, 3v. \$6 each.

Sturgis, Russell. European architecture. A historical study. N. Y., Macmillan, 1896. \$4.

Sturgis, Russell and others. Homes in city and country. N. Y., Scribner, 1893. \$2.

Symonds, John Addington. The life of Michelangelo Buonarroti. N. Y., Scribner, 1893. \$4.

Symonds, John Addington. Renaissance in Italy. The fine arts. London, Smith, Elder & Co., 1897. 7s 6d.

Tarbell, F. B. History of Greek art. Meadville, Pa., Flood & Vincent, 1896. Net, \$1.

Thompson, Arthur. A handbook of anatomy for art students. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1899. Net, 16s.

Van Dyke, John C. Art for art's sake. N. Y., Scribner, 1899. \$1.50.

Van Dyke, John C. How to judge a picture. N. Y., Phillips & Hunt, 1888. 60 cents.

Van Dyke, John C. Principles of art. N. Y., Fords, Howard & Hulbert, 1887. \$1.50

Van Dyke, John C. A text-book of the history of painting. N. Y., 1894, Longmans. (Coll. hist. of art.) \$1.50.

Van Dyke, John C., ed. Modern French masters. N. Y., Century, 1896. \$10.

Van Dyke, John C., ed. Old Dutch and Flemish masters engraved by Timothy Cole. N. Y., Century, 1895. \$7.50.

Van Rensselaer, Mariana. English cathedrals. N. Y., Century Co., 1892. \$6.

Vasari, Giorgio. Lives of seventy of the most eminent painters, sculptors, and architects. Edited by E. H. and E. W. Blashfield, and A. A. Hopkins. N. Y., Scribner, 4v., 1896. Net, \$15.

Viollet-le Duc, Eugene. The habitations of man in all ages. London, Low, 1876. 16s.

Ward, James. Historic ornament. N. Y., Scribner, 1897-98, 2v. \$6.

Ware, William R. Modern perspective. With portfolio of plates. N. Y., Macmillan Co. \$4.

Wharton, Anne Hollingsworth. Heirlooms in miniature. Philadelphia, Lippincott, 1898. \$2.

Wharton Edith and Ogden Codman jr. The decoration of houses. N. Y., Scribner, 1897. \$2.50.

White, Gleeson. Practical designing. London, Bell, 1893. 5s.

Whitman, Alfred. The print-collector's handbook. London, Bell, 1901. 15s.

Willard, Ashton Rollins. History of modern Italian art. London, Longmans, 1900. \$5.

Wilson, Epiphanius. Cathedrals of France N. Y., The Churchman Co., 1900. \$3.

Wormum, R. N. Analysis of ornament. 10th ed. Chapman & Hall, 1896. 8s.

Novels in Libraries.

The latest novel is not necessarily entitled to place in the free public library because it is popular. I would go further and say that I believe it a diversion of the public money from its legitimate uses to buy scores and hundreds of the latest and popular novel simply because there is a demand for it. The right of the popular novel to place in the public library should, in my judgment, depend upon the literary or moral quality of the novel, and not upon its selling quality. Let people who want the highly flavored "novels" buy them at the local bookstore, or borrow them at the Booklovers' library. They should not expect a tax-supported institution, which is nothing if not educational—I use the term educational in its broadest sense—to gratify their taste at public expense.

Nor would I have a free public library spend the taxpayers' money on books that simply waste the reader's time, yielding no profit, affording no inspiration or suggestion of permanent value to anyone. The novels written by "The Duchess" serve as examples of this class.—Johnson Brigham, in *Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette*.

Capacity of Book Stacks

Melvil Dewey, director of New York State library school

We frequently find architects and trustees with curious misunderstanding of some statement they have heard a librarian make about the shelf room necessary for a given library. The following facts will be useful in considering this problem, which is one of the first that comes up whenever a new building is suggested.

Books may be stored in three ways:

1 Packed solidly in boxes, like goods in a freight house. This is most compact.

2 Packed solidly on shelves with no room for growth, but so the title of each book can be read. A novice is apt to figure the shelving required for a given library on this basis.

3 Arranged on the shelves by the old fixed location, with space left for growth according to the librarian's judgment. This system has been almost entirely abandoned in the last 20 years because of the greater economy and convenience of the relative system.

4 Shelved by the relative system (now almost the universal plan among those who understand different methods), which admits of indefinite intercalation and allows constant correction of estimates made for growth of the different subjects.

A library which is never to grow, i. e. which is dead, can be shelved according to the second method. All living libraries must use the fixed or relative location, and to avoid wasteful labor must leave room for growth. This system, because of its flexibility and the ease of using the extra space in the subjects where growth was estimated too high for subjects where the estimate was too low, really admits of greater capacity than does adequate provision for growth in the fixed system. Those who have not used the Decimal classification or other relative systems often get the idea that it requires more space, when in fact it requires less. They have been told that it is wiser to leave

one-third more space than the books actually occupy to provide for new books. They forget that in the fixed system one-half more space would need to be left, and then the provision would not be as satisfactory for growth, for no librarian can predict with any accuracy the rapidity with which books will come in on the various subjects.

It is common to say that every 10v. require a running foot of shelving. This is true for solid packing of the smaller books of popular circulating libraries. In college and reference libraries it will be easily found by measuring the average books that this estimate must be reduced to 7 or 8v. to the foot. Our measurements lead us to allow to each shelf 1 m. long (39.3 in.) for close packing 33 popular volumes, 24 average books from the reference library, or 26v. of a law library; in feet 10, 7 and 8v. to the foot. For a rough general rule for a library with both circulating and reference departments, allow 30v. to the meter, or about 9 to the running foot of shelving as the limit of capacity. This would be so inconvenient that 25v. to the meter (7 to the foot) should be the most planned for if the library is not growing, and to this must be added the total allowance for whatever growth is likely to occur.

A library with a large circulation has a considerable part of its books always in the hands of readers unless it maintains the needless, old-fashioned method of calling all the books in for the annual inventory. The reference library, of course, has all its books on the shelves every day, and cannot reduce the allowance for volumes and circulation.

The rate of growth is very apt to mislead. A library just starting with 1000v., and adding 1000 a year, will increase 100 per cent in one year. If it is 20 years old, and has 20,000v., the same increase of 1000v. would be only 5 per cent.

The wisest architect will therefore find the length of shelving required for the present stock of books, will get the estimated growth not in per cents but in actual volumes, will consider whether

these are popular books or the thicker reference books, and, finally, must make his decision as to the amount of shelving to be planned for according to funds available.

In some cases a substantial gift has been made for a building which will provide for 20 or 50 years, and the plans are such that frequent enlargements would be expensive. It is then best to leave the space, even if the shelves themselves are not set up, though it will stand empty for many years. Often the trustees are troubled to get money enough to meet the cost of the building they wish. They must make their reading, children's, newspaper, and administration rooms large enough for the future, and the one place in which they can save immediate outgo is in the stack. It is very desirable to plan the lot and building so that the stack can be enlarged by adding on without undue expense and without spoiling the lines of the building. Thus a satisfactory building might stand so that there was room for a stack running back 100 feet. For 5 years the first 20 feet might be ample to handle the books, and by building an inexpensive back wall it would be possible to add sections, 20 feet at a time as the growth of the library required, instead of building the whole 100 feet, and leaving it unoccupied for 50 years.

One other solution is sometimes better, to build the outer wall of the full size and to rent or use the space for other purposes till the books require it, leases being arranged so that the library can, on reasonable notice, take more space as fast as necessary. There may be societies, museums, clubs, or even business offices, stores or storage, which would occupy all the space at a fair rent, and which would not be seriously inconvenienced by moving to another building when the growth of the library demanded.

The Publishing board of the A. L. A. will shortly issue a tract on Library architecture, prepared by C. C. Soule of Boston.

Re-collecting State Documents

W. E. Henry, Indiana State Library

Next to the problem of first obtaining and judiciously distributing state publications, comes the problem of re-collecting those of former years that have been injudiciously distributed, and are therefore now where they are of no service, and from whence they ultimately go to destruction.

For some time I tried to devise some plan for finding the whereabouts of unused and uncared for state publications of Indiana, and in that time partially succeeded in collecting such documents, but until recently I had hit upon no plan that seemed at once thorough enough and rapid enough to find and save much valuable material. At last I believe myself justified in announcing a plan that is working admirably in returning to the State library many hundreds of volumes that have been in hiding and on the verge of destruction for many years.

Believing that similar conditions to those obtaining in Indiana prevail in other states, I present the plan used in Indiana for saving the lost.

As above indicated, after trying several plans, no one of which was wholly a failure, neither was any one of them a success, I began to inquire of myself as to the location of such documents as have been distributed by the state and are now not in use. In investigating for the answer to my inquiry, I found that most of the publications referred to were in one of three places:

1 In the libraries of ex-officials of state or county, or collectors interested in the state's affairs.

2 In the attic or basement of the county court-houses.

3 In the hands of junk dealers, coming to them from a great variety of sources.

From the first and second of these sources the documents can generally be had either gratis or for slight compensation; but the State librarian of Indiana has neither the time nor an expense fund to make the extended

journeys necessary to collect them, for very frequently the number of state documents in any one place is very small, but they are quite generally a part of a much larger collection, all of which may be interesting to a general collector or second-hand dealer.

From the third source—the junk dealer—they are still more difficult to obtain, because the junk dealer always considers himself under suspicion because he occasionally gets himself into trouble for having purchased stolen goods; therefore it is difficult to find out what he has in stock until one has had long acquaintance with him in business, so that he knows his visitor to be in no way connected with detective service. These conditions require time and skill. Along with the few documents falling into the hands of the junk dealer are many other books not of value to the state library, but may be of interest and value to second-hand dealers carrying on a large exchange trade.

Can we then find a second-hand dealer who, in the pursuit of his business, can reach the homes of the "once great," and can gain the confidence of the junk dealer and dare the dangers that lurk in the myriads of microbes? A man is found who can do these things—one who knows practically all the collections in the state and has already gained the confidence of the junk dealer. But what can the state library do for such a man in order to enlist his interest so that he can afford to work to the interests of the state library and yet not give a money consideration which we have not to give?

Our state publications, except in the rarest instances, have no money value; then all we need to do for this man is to make it of sufficient interest to him to merely pick up these documents when he happens to find them in connection with other material he is seeking.

This dealer has a limitation which the state library can remove. He has no official standing anywhere, and no social standing where he desires to transact much of his business, therefore

there are many places into which he cannot gain access without some official standing. The state library gives him a certificate of appointment as official collector of documents for the state library. This costs him nothing and opens many doors to him not otherwise open, and leads him to the discovery of many things he wants in his general business. In compensation for his official certificate he agrees to ship to the state library any and all state documents found in all his searches, providing the state library will pay all the actual expense incurred in packing and shipping them.

His dealing with the junk dealer is always a purchase, but at 1½ cents per pound for all books and such papers as he may want. This is cheap for books, but it is a good bargain for the junk man, for when he sells to the trade he gets but three-quarters of a cent per pound. Such documents as come to the state library from the junk dealer the state library pays for at what they actually cost our collector. No document therefore can ever cost the state library more than 1½ cents per pound plus transportation.

This plan has been on trial for a few months and has yielded us large returns in the form of several hundred volumes of scarce state publications, and we have in sight several hundred volumes more.

For sale—One copy each of the following:

Procés-verbaux et mémoires congrès international des bibliothécaires, Paris, 1900.

Transactions and proceedings of the second International library conference, London, 1897.

Proceedings and papers of the A.L.A. meeting, Atlanta, Ga., 1899.

Same, Montreal, 1900.

Same, Waukesha, 1901.

Library journal, first six volumes.

For terms address L., care PUBLIC LIBRARIES, Chicago.

Carnegie Branches of N. Y. Public Library

The plans for the new branch buildings of the New York Public library, to be erected with its share of Mr Carnegie's \$5,000,000 gift, have not yet been so far perfected that they can be described in detail. The general type to which all the buildings will conform is being settled upon by a commission of three architectural firms of New York city: Messrs. McKim, Mead & White, Messrs Carrere & Hastings, and Messrs. Ball, Cook & Willard.

There are, however, certain special conditions in New York city which will have a determining influence on certain features of the new buildings. In the first place, the price of land on Manhattan island is so high, and the island is so solidly built up, that it will be impossible to secure large sites. Instead of putting as many of the departments as possible on one floor, therefore, they must be piled one on top of the other, which is not an ideal arrangement. The typical branch building in the crowded part of New York will stand in the middle of a block on a lot 30 to 50 feet front and 100 feet in depth, and will occupy the whole site, except 10 or 20 feet of the rear. It will contain three important features: an open-shelf delivery room for adults, a children's room, and a general reading-room, all on different floors. In addition there will be the usual staff room, work room, janitor's apartment, toilet rooms, etc. Book shelves will be confined to the walls.

No definite plan for the location of all sites to be occupied by the new branches has yet been completed. Any such plan would necessarily be tentative, and subject to continual revision with the rapidly changing conditions in various parts of the city. As fast as the general localities are decided upon by the committee on circulation they are sent in to the executive committee for investigation, and a report is secured from experts on the available sites in each of the regions proposed, with the probable cost of each. A more definite

selection is then made and sent in to the board of estimate and apportionment of the city for approval. When the board has formally approved a site, and it has been acquired by the city, the public library then proceeds to erect a building upon it and to establish a branch library therein. In many cases the new buildings will house already existing branches, which are now in rented quarters; and there is to be no new system of libraries, but simply an enlargement of the present Circulation department of the Public library, which is already operating 13 branches on a large number of traveling libraries. Only one site (Seventy-ninth st. between Second and Third avs.) has yet been approved. Five others are in the hands of the board and six or eight more are under consideration.

Of course what has been said applies only to the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx (the old city of New York), together with the borough of Richmond (Staten island), which are the only boroughs in which the administration of the Carnegie gift is in the hands of the New York Public library. The buildings in Brooklyn will be erected by the Brooklyn Public library and those in Queens (Long Island city, etc.) by the Queen's Borough Public library.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK,
Chief of circulating department, New
York Public library.

One of the best bulletins of the year is that just sent out by the State historical society of Wisconsin, containing suggestive outlines for the study of the history of the Middle West, Kentucky, and Tennessee. It will be of value to librarians particularly for the lists of books dealing with the various phases of the different periods and places. Specially valuable is the list of suggested fiction for the Middle West. As one reads over the titles included he is struck with the completeness with which the various phases of the development of the country have been treated in fiction. The bulletin is the work conjointly of Prof. F. J. Turner, and R. G. Thwaites.

Library Schools

Drexel

The following graduates of the school have been engaged as temporary catalogers for a special collection of books recently acquired by the library of the University of Pennsylvania: Ruth Palen and Julia E. Stubbs, class of '95; Amy Keith, class of '98; Hetty S. Johnston, class of '99; Beulah S. White and Charlotte E. Hannum, class of 1900.

Edith F. Pancoast, class of 1901, has a temporary position as cataloger in the State library, Augusta, Maine.

Illinois

One of the most interesting and valuable courses given in the Library school, and one which is not offered elsewhere in the United States, is that in Government documents, which for the past three years has been given under the direction of Margaret Mann.

The university library being a depository for the government publications, the material is at hand for thorough study.

As a groundwork for intelligent consideration of the documents, a general outline of the organization and duties of the departments issuing them is given. The various editions in which a document may appear are indicated, and their origin traced to the growth and development of the duties of a department which necessitate a transfer of work to other departments, or a specializing in new departments, bureaus, divisions, or offices.

The reports of the Superintendent of documents, and the printing bill of 1895, serve as text-books, and the students learn where and how the documents may be procured, and who is entitled to receive them.

The key to the vast store of information locked up in these publications is found in the series of indexes prepared by the government. These are considered with especial care and thoroughness, and in connection with them, the arrangement of the congressional documents with respect to paging, number-

ing, classification, indexing, and binding is given due attention.

The handbooks of congress, the publications of early congresses, and reprints of early documents are examined, and in connection with the Congressional record, practical work is given in tracing the progress of a bill from its presentation, through debates and committees, to its final passage.

Department publications are too numerous to be treated extensively in the limits of the course. Selections are made of typical publications which have especial value from the reference side, or which exemplify some rule in the cataloging of documents or illustrate some principle of development in the system of publication.

Throughout the course practical reference problems are given, requiring the actual handling and close examination of the documents, and the cataloging of typical publications serves to impress on the minds of the students the modifications and adaptations of cataloging codes necessary in dealing with anything of so complicated a structure as the material under consideration.

The work has not only a great fascination, but a very evident practical value as a means of opening up to ready reference a mass of invaluable material, which in too many libraries has long been so difficult of access as to be practically unavailable.

Elma Warwick, B. L. S. '97, formerly librarian of the Witherslibrary at Bloomington, and later of the DeKalb Normal school library, was married December 7 to G. H. Wilmarth of Canton, Ohio.

Agnes Cole, B. L. S. 1901, has been appointed junior reviser at the Illinois State library school.

Mabel Reynolds, B. L. S. 1901, will organize a private library of 15,000v. at Milwaukee after January 1.

A number of associations of various kinds, both national and state, held at the university, give students a chance to hear speakers of wide reputation.

New York

Calendar for remainder of school year 1901-02:

Christmas recess ends Thursday p.m., Jan. 2, 1902.

Lectures begin Friday a.m., January 3.

Lincoln's birthday, holiday, Wednesday, February 12.

Washington's birthday, holiday, Saturday, February 22.

Decoration day, holiday, Friday, May 30.

Summer course begins Tuesday a.m., June 3.

Visit to New England libraries, followed by American Library Association meeting, Thursday, June 12—Friday, June 20.

Entrance examinations, Tuesday, June 17—Friday, June 20.

School closes Friday p.m., June 20.

Summer course closes Friday p.m., July 11.

Library Meetings

Chicago—The Chicago Library club held its regular monthly meeting at the public library December 12, at 8 p. m. The discussion of the evening gathered around the special libraries represented by their librarians, as follows: H. S. Grosser of the Municipal library, Miss Forrester of the Art institute library, Miss Downey of the Field Columbian museum library, and Mr Swem of the Armour institute library.

The Municipal library aims to keep full sets of municipal documents, not only of Chicago, but, through a system of exchange, of other cities as well. Exchange of duplicates will be made with any library. An exchange with 160 American cities and 80 foreign cities has been established.

The Art institute library is primarily for the use of the students of the institute, but its reference books are free to anyone interested. Miss Forrester gave an interesting account of some of the most valuable volumes, most of which have been gifts.

The library of the Field Columbian museum is also primarily for the use of the curators, but is open for reference

to others. An extended exchange with learned and scientific societies has been established.

The Armour institute library supplies the needs of the various departments of that technical school. The system of departmental libraries has largely been adopted.

District of Columbia—The regular monthly meeting of the District of Columbia Library association was held Wednesday evening, Nov. 13, 1901, at the Columbian university. There were 85 members present. The first subject was a paper on the Document collections of the Library of congress by Dr Roland P. Falkner, chief of the Document division.

Dr Falkner said in part:

The wealth of matter which is published by governments, national, state, and local, together with the kindred publications of quasi-public corporations, all of which must be considered as documents, perplexes and embarrasses the librarian. So great is the extent of this literature that no library can aim to comprise it all. Few are so free from restrictions as the Library of congress. Yet to attempt to collect every document issued by every government body in the United States alone, would drain the resources of the Library of congress and soon overcrowd its shelves. The place, circumstances, and contemplated use of a library must determine the scope of its document collection. For the Library of congress, the determining characteristic has been the fact that it is the legislative library. In the Library of congress, which of necessity pursues primarily the aim of collecting all material tributary to the work of legislation, the document collections have a wider scope than could be expected elsewhere.

The Library of congress can hardly point with pride to the fact that its collections of documents, published by the United States government, are extensive and possibly more complete than those to be found elsewhere. For the Library of congress nothing short of a

complete collection of these documents is a fitting ideal. The documents bearing the congressional number in the familiar sheep-bound sets have been given abundantly to the Library of congress by law, and apart from a few losses which have arisen through the disappearance of particular volumes the set is quite complete. But the documents issued by the departments, both those which duplicate the congressional sets and those which were wholly independent of it, have in times past been received by the Library of congress in a most haphazard fashion. No law existed before March 3, 1901, authorizing, or requiring the government printing office to furnish these documents to the Library of congress. These, since 1895 at least, had been furnished to depository libraries throughout the country. The executive departments and offices have been most willing to present their documents, and have indeed responded to appeals with the most cheerful alacrity; but those in charge of them have as a rule been unaware of the fact that their publications were not currently received at the Library of congress.

If it be the proper ideal for the Library of congress to collect all printed matter published by the federal government, it cannot be deemed equally important that all publications issued by the several states of the Union should be included within its collections. It has, of course, a primary interest in all legislative matters, and collects the records of proceedings of the state legislatures and the papers printed by order of the legislature, and bound together as collected documents. Of these volumes there are some 7000, exclusive of all duplicates, in the Library of congress. Separate issues of the states are collected only when they touch upon matters of the first importance, and no attempt is made to have complete collections of the purely administrative reports of state institutions generally.

As we pass from the consideration of state to that of local documents we seem to get further from the immediate purpose of the Library of congress, and

the problem of selection becomes more difficult. In view of the interest in municipal government at the present time, and in view perhaps of the functions of congress as the governing body of the District of Columbia, the Library of congress cannot overlook this field of literature, nor can it attempt a collection of all the local documents published in the United States. The present collection, confined almost exclusively to the large states, numbers some 13000. Little has, to my knowledge, been done to develop this field of literature or to establish the principles upon which the acquisition of material should proceed. It is one of the problems which we have thus far been obliged to postpone.

The most distinctive feature of the document collections of the Library of congress is undoubtedly the wealth of foreign material which they contain. Since 1867 a regular exchange of government documents between the United States and foreign governments has taken place. Through the agents of the Smithsonian institution some 45 sets of the publications of the United States are sent to as many foreign governments from whom the Library of congress receives a more or less adequate equivalent. In arranging this exchange it has been deemed important that the libraries of Europe should contain the public documents of the United States, and whether located in large or small countries, with a large or small number of publications of their own, the full sets of the United States government have been sent. Yet the return which has been made to the Library of congress does not depend alone upon the number of works published by the different governments, but frequently upon fortuitous circumstances. The regularity of receipts depends much upon the concentration or lack of concentration in the method of publishing documents. Where they are printed by order of the legislature, and numbered consecutively in the series as in the Parliamentary papers of Great Britain, the receipts are large, but where they are printed by several ministries, and

where there are several special agents to forget the transmission, the receipts are less satisfactory. Yet the collection as a whole is a remarkable one. The documents which may be classed as legislative documents, and correspond for foreign governments to our Congressional sets, number over 20,000 for Great Britain and her colonies, and the European nations. There is still much unsorted material relating especially to South America in the library.

In relation to other libraries it may be stated that the aggregate number of volumes in the Library of Congress, exclusive of duplicates, is about 87,500v. The New York Public library, where special attention is given to documents, had, in 1900, 65,575v. of this class. The other large libraries of the United States fall much below these figures, so far as their contents can be inferred from their reports.

In summarizing his arguments for Subject catalogs vs. bibliographies, Mr Burns, of the Public document library, held that the catalog in answering the question, What has the library on any given subject? served the main purpose of the readers' visit to the library; bibliographies on the other hand, inasmuch as they aimed to cover the entire field, only answered this question indirectly. The catalog was uniform in its plan, therefore easier to consult than bibliographies, because being compiled by various persons the plan of each had to be mastered. The card catalog, owing to its form, was not as easy to consult as the printed bibliography, but had the advantage of being up to date. He maintained that well-organized libraries should have both catalogs and bibliographies.

The subject was further discussed by J. C. M. Hanson, W. D. Johnston, David Hutcheson, Thomas H. Clark, Bernard Green, and B. P. Mann.

The establishment in Rome of an American library has been ordered by royal decree. The library will contain all publications relating to the new world since its discovery.

Proceedings of Library Congress in Paris.

Congrès international des bibliothécaires tenus à Paris du 20 au 23 août 1900. Procès-verbaux et mémoires publiés par Henry Martin, secrétaire général du congrès, Paris: H. Welter, 1901. [4], 267 p.

This congress, the fourth international congress of librarians in point of fact, seems to have had a somewhat more international character than its predecessors. Of 31 papers, nine were by non-Frenchmen. At the close of the last meeting it was decided that another international library congress should be held in five years, and the matter was put in the hands of the committee of organization of this congress. It is to be hoped that this plan may be realized and that the result be an international organization of librarians, such as already exists for Americanists, orientalists, archeologists, zoologists, etc.

The subjects discussed were varied enough, and while historical and bibliographical topics were represented on the program, practical problems of administration were discussed by the majority of the speakers.

The president, M. Léopold Delisle, touched in his opening address on the importance of a supplement to the Catalogue général of the Bibliothèque nationale, containing titles of books in the other three large libraries of Paris, Mazarin, Sainte-Geneviève and Arsenal, not contained in the national library.

The question of what to do with duplicates was the topic of two papers. One speaker suggested a general system of exchange of books between the libraries of the same country, the other suggested the collection of all these duplicates in a central "bibliothèque de réserves" at Paris, record of these depositions kept on file, so that any inquirer might find out which library contained certain books, as far as the records of the duplicate library showed. One copy of these duplicates should be kept on the shelves of the "bibliothèque de réserves," but the duplicates of them

distributed among the libraries wishing them. These records would, of course, show not only what books had been sent out, and where to, but also from what libraries books had been received as being duplicates. This central library should also contain a bibliographical apparatus, consisting largely of a complete file of printed catalogs of libraries. The secretary of the congress, M. Henry Martin, submitted a plan for special libraries of periodical and serial publications. To this it was objected that periodical publications contain valuable contributions that could not very well be kept separate from the ordinary book collection. Dr B. Lundstedt of Stockholm told how the daily journals in the Royal library of that city are kept in a specially arranged room in the basement, immediately below the reference room.

Three important bibliographical undertakings were described: the *Bibliographie der deutschen Festschriften-Litteratur* of F. Dietrich, the series of *Bibliographies critiques*, published by the Société d' études historiques, under the editorship of Dr F. Funck-Brentano and M. Henri Stein, and the work of the *Concilium bibliographicum* in Zurich organized and directed by Dr. H. H. Field.

One speaker recommended the extensive use of such publications as the catalog of accessions to the Prussian libraries, printed in a special edition on thin paper, on one side only, for pasting on cards to be used in the catalog of a library, while another had come to the conclusion that this was uneconomical and clumsy, and advocated the printing of catalogs directly on cards. The director of the National library of Santiago de Chili gave an interesting account of the history of that library. Archibald Clarke of the British Museum had sent in a paper on the Danish scholar and statesman, Frederick Rostgaard, who in the last years of the seventeenth century discussed with the librarian of the *Behlithèque royale* of Paris, Nicolas Clément, as to the best methods of arranging the titles in a

printed library catalog. M. J. Favier, librarian of Nancy, made a plea for closer connection between libraries and learned societies, giving instances from his own library, and Miss Plummer told of the coöperation between libraries and schools in the United States. A very full account of American libraries was given by M. E. Grand, who visited this country between 1894 and 1898. He brought out quite well the salient points, even if he got things twisted occasionally. He gave frequently universal application to certain practices of individual libraries, for instance, special reading-rooms for women as characteristic of American libraries. The paper is in its printed form followed by a rather meager bibliography.

Dr E. Schultze, librarian at Hamburg, brought out the interesting fact that the English libraries keep the largest per cent of their books for use in the reference departments only, while the German libraries do not know of any restrictions of this kind, and the French, while originally addicted to the English practice, are mending their ways and becoming more liberal. The writer regarded as the main purpose of the free public libraries that their books should be used in the homes of their patrons.

The question of conservation of paper and of prevention of the ravages of insects received a prominent place on the program, the latter topic being subject for discussion at a special conference, held in connection with the congress, to discuss this topic alone. These are only some of the most interesting papers in this very interesting volume, which every librarian who cares for anything more than the daily routine of his work should read. He would very likely find much that would be suggestive even in his routine work.

A. G. S. J.

A classified catalog of 3500v., suitable for a public library proportioned in accordance with library ideas, has been issued by A. C. McClurg & Co. It is compiled from the various American publishers, and is a useful guide.

News from the Field

East

Anne L. Maltbie, N. Y. 1899-1900, has been appointed cataloger in the Connecticut State library.

Anna Eliza Whitney of Lancaster, Mass., has given \$10,000 for a public library to Bolton, Mass.

The alumni library fund of Wesleyan university library, Middletown, Conn., now amounts to \$34,155. The sum of \$4610 has been added to it the past six months.

F. Mabel Winchell, for seven years assistant librarian of Forbes library, Northampton, Mass., has been elected librarian of the public library at Manchester, N. H.

Four counties of Western Massachusetts have 120 public libraries, containing 825,000 books. The towns where they are located have a population of 307,000. Some of the librarians give their time without salary. In several cases the pay is from \$5 to \$30 a year.

The Loyal legion of Boston opened and dedicated a fine library room in the Cadet's armory, December 5, with much military pomp and ceremony. The collection of books and mementos, though an important one, is but the nucleus of the collection pertaining to the civil war that will be gathered.

John Cotton Dana, for the past four years librarian of the City library, Springfield, Mass., has resigned his position to become librarian of Newark at an increased salary. Mr Dana's departure is deeply deplored by the community of Springfield, and resolutions of regret were passed by the various clubs and civic organizations. The newspapers of that city and Boston speak in the highest terms of Mr Dana and his work, and regret his leaving the state.

Central Atlantic

John Ashhurst has been appointed librarian of the Mercantile library in Philadelphia.

Pratt institute library (Brooklyn) had an exhibit of new books suitable for holiday gifts during December.

Henrietta C. Bartlett, Pratt 1901, has been engaged to assist in the reorganization of the public library of Englewood, N. J.

The last of the mural paintings intended for the Boston public library, by E. A. Abbey, have been on exhibition in New York city for the past month. It is expected they will all be in place by April.

The report of the New Jersey library commission gives full and interesting accounts not only of the library work of the state in general, but of the most important individual libraries. The book is illustrated by cuts of the library buildings of the state.

J. Pierpont Morgan is credited with having paid for a Latin psalter, during his last visit to Europe, nearly \$26,000, said to be the highest price ever paid for a single book. The book, which is the *Psalmorum codex*, printed by Fust & Schaeffer in 1459, is now in Mr Morgan's safety vault in New York.

Branches of the Washington county Free library of Hagerstown, Md., have been established by Miss Titcomb at Leitersburg, in charge of Josephus Ground; at Boonsboro, in charge of Harvey Bomberger, and at Sandy Hook, in charge of Pearl Hench. Applications are being prepared in other places for the branch libraries, and it is the intention to supply the demand as rapidly as possible.

Central

The Cincinnati public library has issued a special reading list on missions, containing about 350 entries.

Bertha Brown, N. Y. '99, and until recently librarian of Eau Claire, Wis., has been appointed librarian of Madison, (Wis.)

The public library at Joliet, Ill., has extended its privileges to the people of

Will county, in which the city is situated.

The Moon memorial library, presented to Stanley, Wis., by Mrs S. F. Moon, as a memorial to her husband, was dedicated December 17.

Edna Lyman has been engaged since October 1 in organizing the school work and the children's department of the Madison (Wis.) public library.

Racine, Wis., has had an offer of \$50,000 from Mr Carnegie for a new library building, on the usual terms of a site and \$5000 annually for maintenance.

Ellen Summers Wilson, N. Y. '96-'98, has resigned her position as librarian of the Wylie av. branch of the Carnegie library, Pittsburg, Pa., to become librarian of the Steubenville (Ohio) public library.

Emma M. Chapin has just finished her twentieth year as librarian of the Geneseo (Ill.) public library, and has had no assistant in that time. The library moved into a new library building last year.

The report of Librarian Willcox of Peoria, Ill., gives an increase of 454 cardholders in the past year; circulation 174,945v., an increase of 6994; books added 5000, making a total of 72,133v. in the libraries.

The public library presented to Muscatine, Iowa, by P. M. Musser, was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies December 20. Miss Faddis, of the School of education, Chicago, has been engaged for three months to organize the library.

The Stoughton (Wis.) library was opened December 14 with exercises afternoon and evening, and a reception for the townspeople and farmers. A new building was recently put up in Stoughton for a library and city hall.

The Kansas State historical library contains 23,051v. of books, 23,907v. of newspapers and magazines, 67,418 pamphlets, 23,317 manuscripts, 6397 relics, 5030 pictures, and 4886 maps, atlases,

pictures and museum objects. Estimated value, \$175,000.

The Springfield (Ill.) library board, after a long and wearing struggle with competitive bids from architects to build the new public library (a gift from Mr Carnegie), finally decided to choose an architect regardless of bids and close the matter. The firm selected was not in the competition.

The Winona (Minn.) public library has hung up wall pockets in the manufacturing establishments, business houses, hotels, and other public places, calling attention to the various advantages of the library, and containing guarantors' slips, which can be taken and filled out by anyone who desires to take books from the library.

The Portage (Wis.) library association turned over its library to the city, which has provided a fine library room in the new city hall, and voted \$1200 a year to the support of the library. This library has been carried on for a year by the ladies of Portage, and has been one of the most successfully managed libraries in the state of Wisconsin.

South

The Cossitt library of Memphis, Tenn., reports 3014 cardholders from the re-registration recently made, and a circulation of 64,799v.

West

William A. Clark jr of Montana has presented the state prison of Montana with \$5000 with which to buy books for a library.

Foreign

The public library of the Borough of Workington, England, receives every year an average of 250v. from a book club, which buys books of all classes for use by the members, and presents them to the library at the end of a year. The club has given the library 740v. since its formation in 1897.

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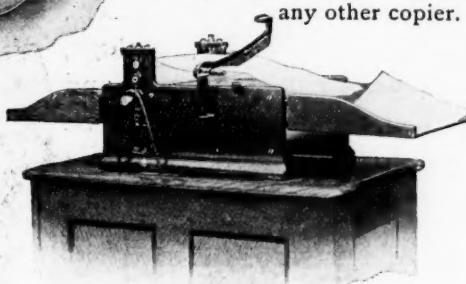
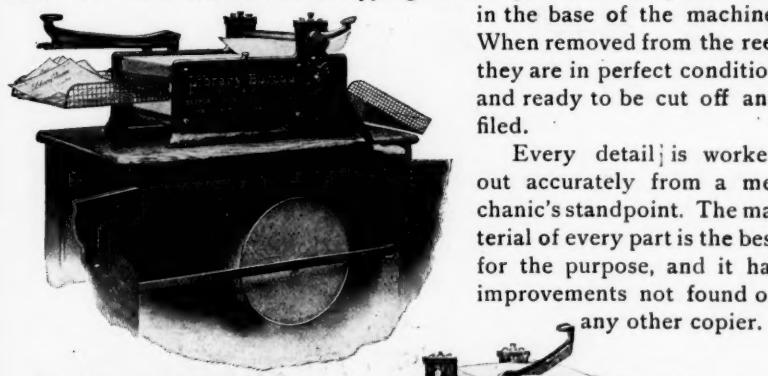
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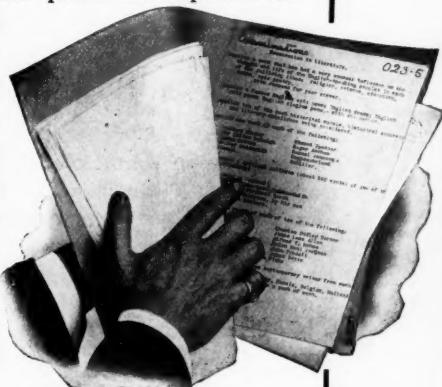
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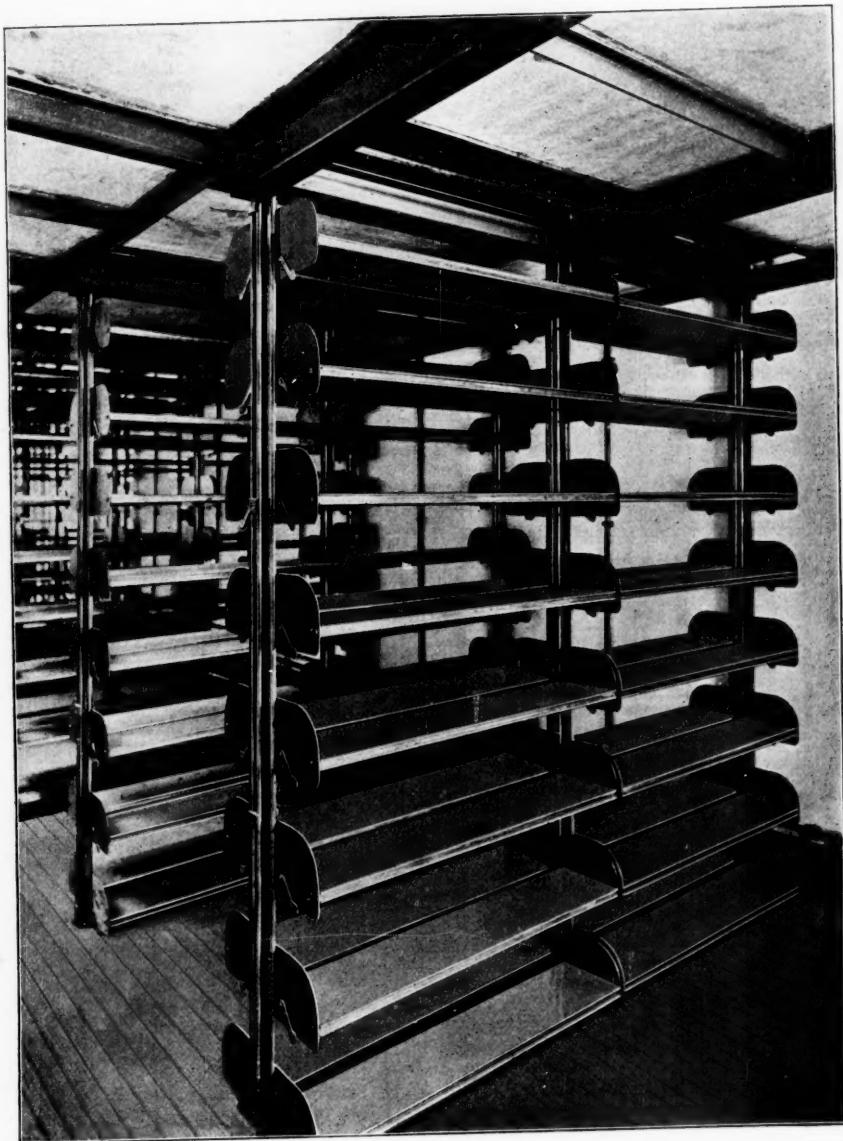
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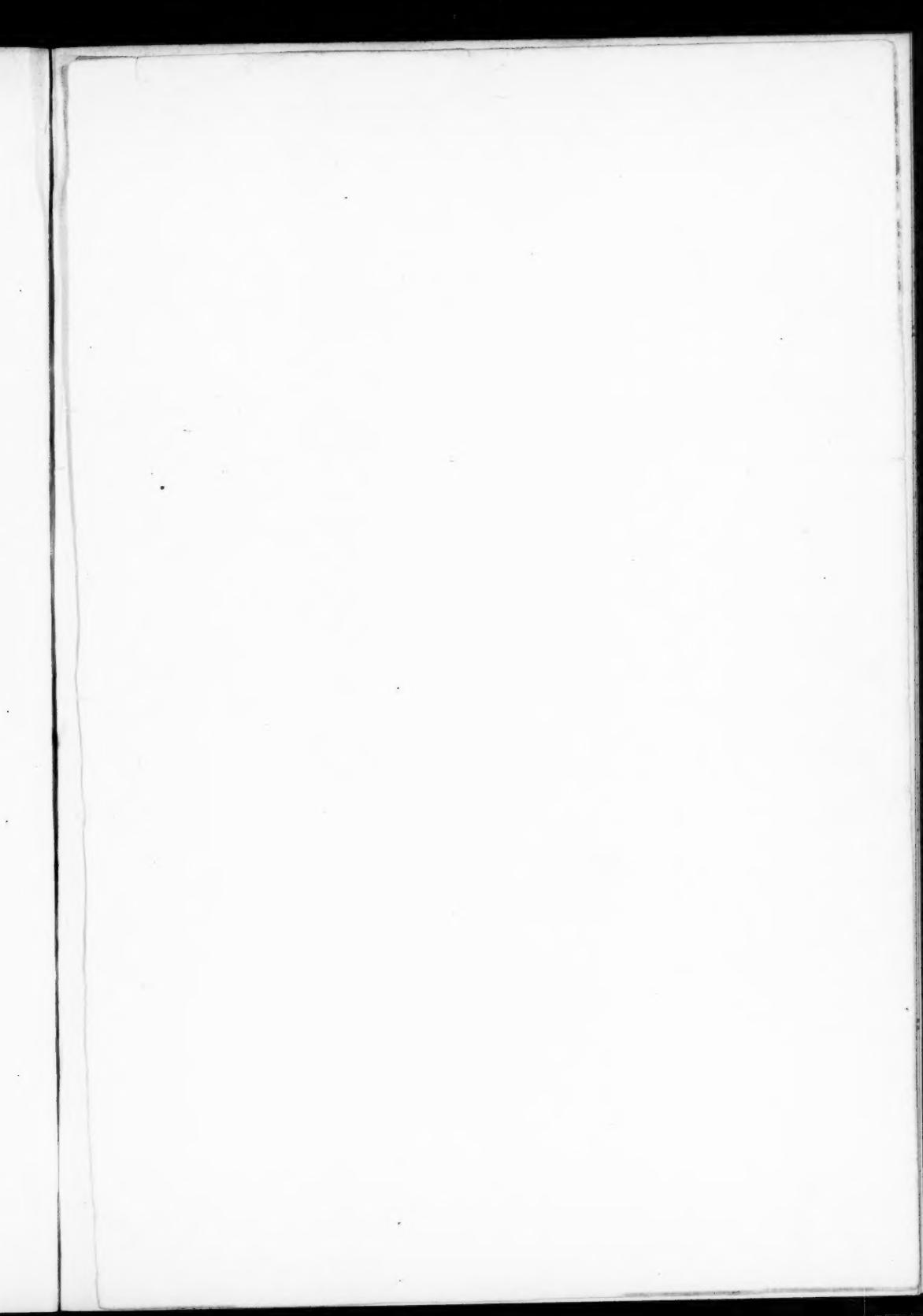
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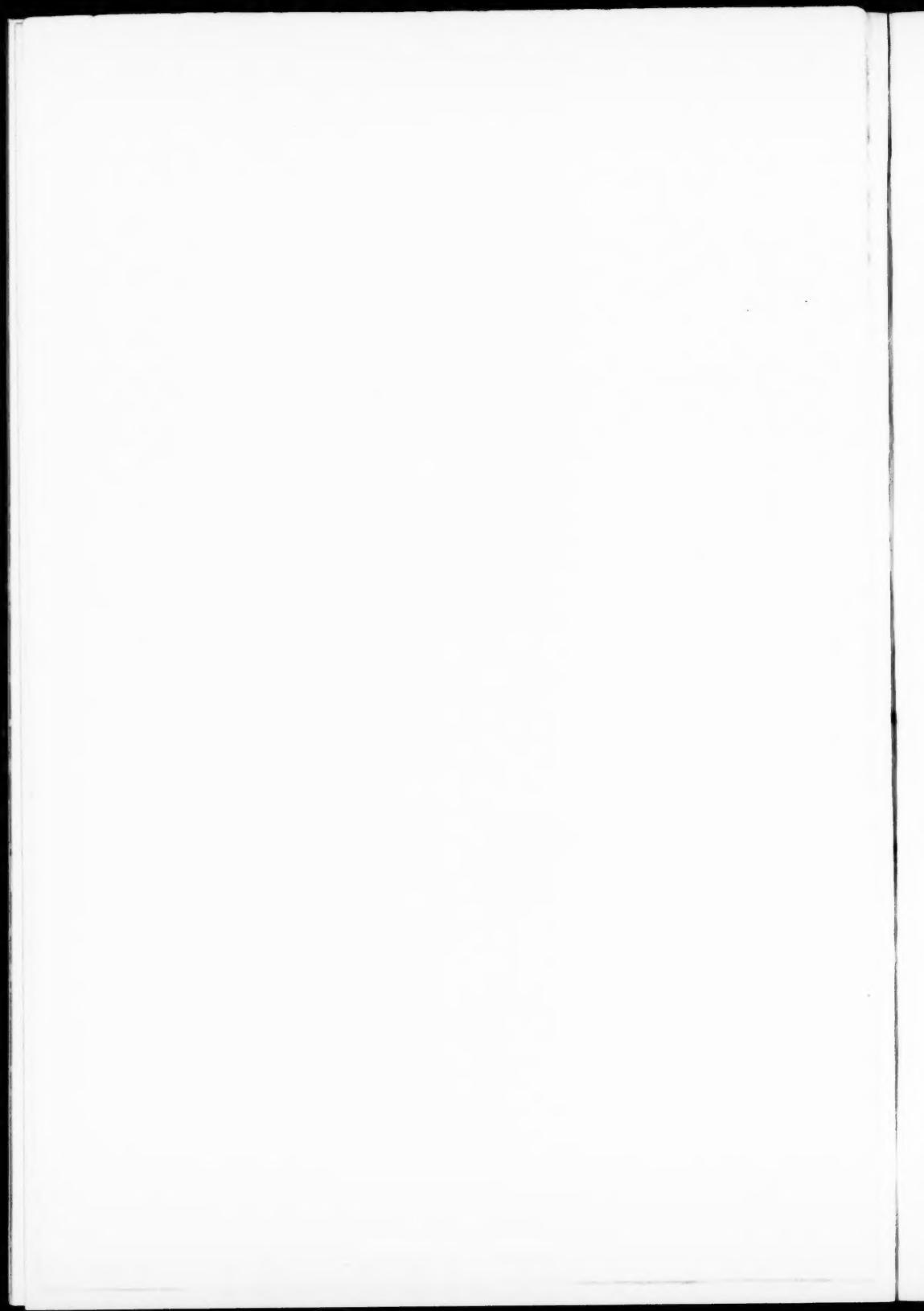
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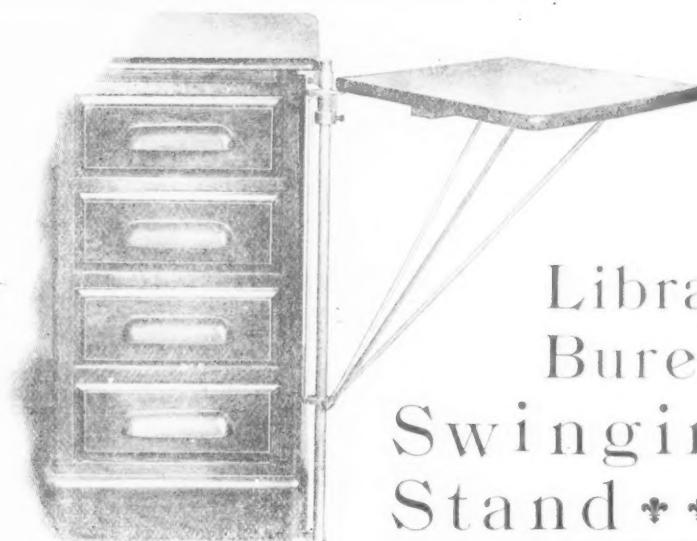
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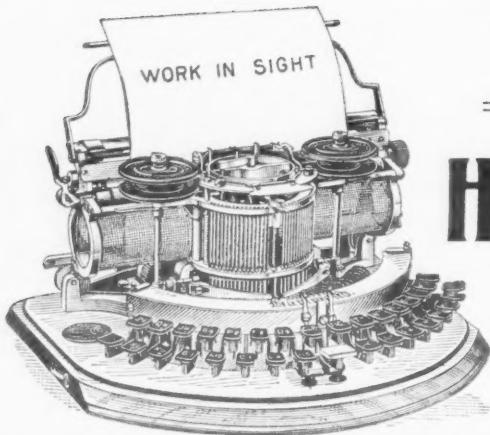
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